

Search

goes on

for Alps

Rescuers standing on destroyed ski chalets after the avalanche on Tuesday near Chamonix, in the French Alps

#### BY JOHN LICHFIELD in Argentiere, French Alps RESCUE TEAMS were continu-

victims

ing to search the impacted snow and rubble which used to be 18 Alpine chalets last night. despite fading hopes of finding more survivors of the avalanche which killed 10 people near Argentière on Tuesday.

Two more people were known to be missing, believed huried under the wreckage and snow; which had been turned hard as concrete by severe frost,

The 10 known to have died, all French, included a couple and their three children aged 11 to 13, and an elderly couple and their four-year-old grand-

Twenty people were rescued. including a 12-year-old boy found close to death after spending hours buried in the wreckage. The child suffering from hypothermia but otherwise unin-

jured, was said to be recovering well in hospital in Chamonix. The avalanche - wider than the length of a football field and as tall as a house - crashed into a high Alpine valley amid the ski resorts of the Mont Blanc massif after three days of intense snow storms. Part of the wall of snow rebounded uphili to engulf

as those who failed to pay their opposite side of a stream Local people were in a state of shock, and some fear yesterday. The stricken chalets were in a "white zone", considered to be almost free from the threat of avalanches. There

a group of chalets oo the

not being named, had been working at the resort and had beeo skiing off piste when the avalanche struck

### Skills test for all doctors

EVERY DOCTOR in Britain is to By JEREMY LAURANCE be required to undergo regular Health Editor a condition of being allowed to continue in practice, leaders of the medical profession decided

yesterday. In a historic vote, the General Medical Council, the profession's disciplinary body, decided that doctors must agree to continuous monitoring of their skills to preserve public confidence and to see off government threats to intervene in their regulation.

The move marks a milestone in the regulation of doctors. Pressure for change has been growing on the GMC and

on the royal medical colleges, which have been criticised as cartels protecting the interests of their members, rather than those of the public, and which sharply increased last year following the Bristol heart babies case in which three doctors were found guilty of scrious professional conduct after 29 out of 53 babies died.

Yesterday two weeks before the public inquiry into the tragedy is due to begin hearings, parents of the Bristol babies suffered further distress when it was revealed that they

had buried their offspring without their hearts.

170 babies who died were removed and stored, without their parents' permission, over a 16-year period up to 1995.

The Bristol Royal Infirmary said yesterday it was routine practice to retain organs for examination and education purposes", and there was no legal requirement on it to obtain consent although it was now standard practice to do so.

Under the measures agreed by the GMC yesterday, every hospital and GP practice will be required to draw up a "profile" of the performance of each

ously updated. This will be . assessment, possibly every five years, with the ultimate sanction that doctors who fail to measure up, or who refuse to

co-operate, will be struck off. Until now, doctors who have completed their training have been free to practise without any further checks on their performance. The new measures mean that for the first time they will have to regularly demonstrate their fitness to

The Government had responded to the growing public disquiet by signalling its in-



teation to intervene unless the GMC put its house in order. The new NHS Bill includes a clause giving ministers powers over regulatory machinery.

water down the proposals was

chairman of the junior doctors committee of the British Medical Association said the new measures would be unwieldy. cumbersome and difficult to implement and could open the GMC to a legal challenge by struck-off doctors.

However, Sir Donald Irvine, president of the GMC who has personally driven through the

changes, said existing measures were inadequate. He added that "bloody mind-

Action group said the move still left the checks in the hands of ed doctors" who refused to cooperate with the assessment

doctors and an independent body was required. A last-minute attempt to could be struck off the register

#### council in May, with a further had been no significant slide of The decision was welcomed yesterday by the medical col-The Foreign Office said last leges, the BMA and the Assonight that the body of a 28-yearold British man had been found ciation of Community Health Councils representing patients. in Courcheval, about 40 miles But the Bristol Heart Pareots south of Chamonix, after an avalanche. The man, who was

#### Parents' distress, page 7

automatically in the same way

A steering committee of the

GMC will now consider how the

measures will work in practice

and will report back to the full

annual registration fee.

report in November.

#### British arms cargo seized by Customs

CUSTOMS OFFICERS in Belgium have seized a huge cargo of military equipment being shipped by a British company to war-torn Eritrea.

Tonnes of army equipment and 40 ex-German army lorries have been impounded at Antwerp docks. A Customs spokesman said that the equipment included replacement eogines for former Soviet tanks, infra-red sights, periscopes and thermal imaging equipment. "This is an exceptional catch. We don't seize 91 container loads of military equipment every day," he said.

Fierce fighting broke out in Eritrea on Saturday when Ethiopia invaded the Badme area after a recurring border dispute. Fighting continued yesterday when Russian-made Ethiopian aircraft attacked villages in Western Eritrea.

The military equipment had brought together in Holland and moved by rail to Antwerp for loading on to a ship. Customs officials became suspicious of the cargo, which was

BY PAUL LASHMAR

listed as building equipment and water pumps. A strict new Belgian law prevents military equipment being exported without an arms export li-

British company organising the shipment is the south London-based JMT Charlesworth Ltd, trading as Global Services. John Charlesworth, the owner, speaking from Antwerp yesterday denied that it was military equipment. "It was an order for a Eritrean road construction company called Ghedem," he said.

Mr Charlesworth said that he had struck the deal after being given a Department of Trade and Industry grant to explore export opportunities in R: itrea. Mr Charlesworth said that he had not known there been bought in Germany, were infra-red sights, peri scopes or thermal imaging included in the shipment. The 80 engines are of the type used for Russian made T-54 and T-55 tanks, although he said they

were for use in Russian-made bulldozers. He has mounted a legal challenge against the Belgian government over the seizure but the authorities brought in a military intelligence official who confirmed that the shipment was military equipment. An independent expert is due to report shortly.

As a result of the shipment being held up in Antwerp since October, the Eritrean company has pulled out of the deal, Mr Charlesworth said. He denied he dealt in military equipment.

There is no arms embargo in Britain on supplying weapons to Eritrea or Ethiopia, Oxfam said yesterday: "The key issue is arms broking, which was really at the centre of the Sandline affair. It is not illegal if the arms do not touch UK soil."

Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Affairs Foreign Affairs and Defence spokesman, said that "the sooner the law relating to arms brokers is tightened up, the better".

From Ethiopian football field to battlefield, page 13 | group Jubilee 2000. For more

#### Write off third world debt, stars tell Blair

ROCK STARS, international By DAVID LISTER celebrities and record companies are launching a campaign to pressurise world leaders, including Tony Blair, into writing off debt owed by the world's

In what will be the biggest and most political music industry campaign since Live Aid in 1985, the rock and pop world will call on the United Nations to cancel "unpayable Third World debt" as a humanitarian gesture

for the new millennium. The campaign will be launched at the Brit Awards in London next week Campaign logos and the slogan "Drop the Debt" will appear on CD covers over the next year Artists who have signed the petition include David Bowie, Luciano Pavarotti, Prodigy, Annie Lennox, Catatonia, Oasis, Rob-

bie Williams, Cornershop and Placebo. Keith Flint of Prodigy is having the words "Drop the Debt" tattooed on to his back A global campaign to cancel unpayable debt has been backed

for some time by the pressure



Prodigy's Keith Flint

been talking to music industry

The music industry intends to stress the fact that Live Aid raised over £100m. But more than that is returned by Africa every week in debt repayments. In 1996, Comic Relief in Britain raised £26m in the world's biggest telethon. That, says Jubilee 2000, is what Africa pays out on debt in one day.

that cannot be afforded for some countries - and all debts for the very poorest - will go to the next summit of world leaders. More than three million people worldwide bave signed it. But the involvement of rock stars and Pavarotti and the planned campaign by the record companies has not been made public.

Marc Marot, managing director of Island Records UK, who has been involved in gathering support, said last night: "We can help to popularise what is rather an esoteric movement, so that this campaign hits the heartland of the country. That's why it's necessary to bring in those with in-

fluence in popular culture." Jubilee 2000 says that approximately £11bn may need to be cancelled. It would cost each taxpayer £2 per year to cancel the debts owed directly to Britain from the world's poorest countries. The UN has estimated that if funds were diverted back into health and education from debt repayment, the lives of seven million children could be saved before 2000.

# "A GENUINELY REMARKABLE FILM AS POWERFUL, MOVING AND CAPABLE OF INDELIBLY ETCHING ITSELF ON THE BRAIN AS SCHINDLER'S LIST." A FABLE BY ROBERTO BENIGNI

#### INSIDE THIS SECTION

Backbenchers anger Labour MPs protested at plans for crackdown on benefit claimants Home P2

Legal battle ends Power industry faces £1.5bn pensions bill

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Recession warning Bank of England cut its growth forecast and warned of recession Business P18

England-v-Australia England lost the first of three one-day matches Sport P27

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David Aaronovitch Tony Blair should trust the Press to conduct an intelligent debate Comment P3

Let's get rid of the notion of ethnic minorities

Want to be a Mason? Apart from funny handshakes, what is it that modern Masons do?

Yasmin Alibhai-Brown Neighbours from hell Anthony Quinn on the least romantic film ever

Features PB



The petition to cancel debts

#### IN STHE INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

Thousands of people share the emotions of an afternoon. But deep down they know it's ridiculous

MARK STEEL SPENDS SATURDAY AFTERNOON WATCHING CRYSTAL PALACE

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAF, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCEIVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUL ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

### MPs plan revolt on benefit reforms

night threatened to mount the higgest backbench rehellion since the general election over the Government's plans to force all social security claimants to attend regular back-towork interviews under the threat of losing their benefits.

The Government's crackdown was condemned by groups representing the dis-abled mentally ill and sole parents, and eveo some ministers privately expressed their hostility to the sweeping changes unveiled yesterday in the Welfare Reform Bill. They accused Tooy Blair of "pandering to middle England" by "taking a stick to beat benefit claimants".

One cabinet minister warned the moves could alienate traditional Labour supporters and would harm Labour's prospects in this spring's elections of local authorities, the European Parliament and the Scottish and Welsh assemblies.

The drive to end the "something for nothing culture" of Britain's £98bo-a-year benefits system, disclosed in The Independent yesterday, will involve regular interviews for claimants of income support, houswidow's benefit, severe disablement allowance and invalid care allowance. Although the Bill allows benefit reductions for claimants refusing a work-focused interview without good reason, Alistair Darling, the Secretary of State for Social Securityy, made it clear that all, rather than part, of their state

handouts would be stopped. He said that a severely dis-

years, while a young johless person would be called in "far more often" - probably after in-tervals of only some months. In a departure from his pre-

vious "softly, softly" approach in which welfare reforms applied only to new claimants, Mr Darling said the new changes would be gradually extended to those already receiving benefits. He described his proposals "harsh hut justifiable". adding: "There is no automatic right to benefit."

But Diane Abhott, the leftwing MP, accused ministers of "harassing" single mothers and predicted a higger rebellion than the 1997 revolt over cuts in benefits for lone parents, when 47 Labour MPs voted the response to this," she said.

John Marek, Labour MP for Wrexham, said he would not vote for the "anti-family" Bill. The Liberal Democrats ac-

cused the Government of subjecting 100,000 of the most vulnerable people to benefit Tories said Labour had not gone far enough, claiming it had backed away from compulsory work requirements because the jobs were not available.

Mind, the meotal health charity, said: "Many people with mental health problems will be worried sick by the prospect of having their henefits threateoed if they don't attend these interviews."



The artist Julian Opie with his installation yesterday designed for the hoarding on the Tate Gallery's Millhank development in central London.

Drawn using a computer, the portraits on the 50-metre high wall will remain in place until 2000 when the main building works finish Brian Harris

### Mandelson makes secret trip to against the Government and many others abstained. "It will be even more taken abasis by act as poll consultant to ANC

PETER MANDELSON is on a clandestine visit to South Africa this week to give advice to the ANC retain power and ensure African National Congress in elections in May.

dustry secretary, who travelled to South Africa on Sunday, had hoped his visit would remain a secret and he would return to Britain without being recognised. But the oews started to

emerge in Pretoria last night. It is believed that Mr Mandelsoo is on a fact-finding mission to discover whether he

could take on a more formal role during the country's twomooth election campaign.

a smooth transition from the the run-up to the country's regime of Nelson Mandela to Thabo Mbeki, his chosen suc-

The idea was suggested by Richard Caborn, Britain's minister of the regions, who has close links with the ANC and is a former anti-apartheid cam-Prime Minister and Mr

Caborn's departmental boss. They saw the move as a way of both aiding the ANC and helping Mr Mandelson's political rehabilitation following his The aim would be to help the resignation from the Cabinet in

December after the revelation of his £373,000 personal loan to buy a home in west London from Geoffrey Robinson, then paymaster-general.

South Africa as a close ally of Tony Blair and leading architect of New Labour. The prospect of him advising

paigner. It was encouraged by Downing Street by officials strategy.

John Prescott, the Deputy from the South African Embassy in London in December. Labour's 1997 general election It was also raised when Mr campaign, Mr Mandelson be-Blair met Mr Mbeki during his came minister without portfothree-day trip to South Africa last month.

This week's mission by Mr tation of government policy. Mandelson was set up by Mar-

LIGHTING UP

garet McDonagh, the Labour er links with the ANC, as part Party's general secretary, and the trip was funded by British trade unions.

The ANC party machine is Friends say Mr Mandelson believed to be in need of an ur- Mandelson is likely to enhance tion. Mr Mandelson could also give advice on the relationship between party and government - and the need for a the ANC was discussed at common communications

> masterminding lio, when he was responsible for the co-ordination and presen-

of his drive to give his "third tional dimension

The proposed role for Mr MPs, many of whom were angry at speculation that he might make an early return to the Cabinet. They were furious when be attended a meeting of a joint working party set up with the German government

last month. Mr Mandelson's links with Africa date back to 1973, when he spent a year as a voluntary worker in Tanzania in a visit set up hy the late Bishop Trevor Huddlestone.

#### Lawyers demand death inquiry

BY DAVID MCKPTTRICK Ireland Correspondent

THE OFFICIAL inspector o police interrogation centres in Northern Ireland is one of more than a thousand legal figures adding weight to new pressure for a judicial inquiry into one of the most controversial killings of the Troubles. Sir Louis Blom-Cooper QC,

who is independent commissioner for the RUC's interrogation centres, has joined and international lawyers to sign a petition calling for an inquiry into the 1989 murder of the Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane.

The petition is also supported by Amnesty International. the Law Society of England and Wales and more than a dozen other human-rights bodies.

In another move on the tenth anniversary of the killing, a rights organisation is sending the Government a dossier believed to contain new evidence on the killing emanating from British military intelligence files,

Finucane. who defended republican clients in a number of high-profile cases, was shot by loyalists in February 1989. There were claims of collusion between elements of the intelligence community and

British-Irish Rights Watch, which is submitting a 60-page dossier to the authorities, says the new evidence "strongly suggests that agents of the state have been involved, murder of its citizens."

The organisation says the evidence suggests that intelligence groupings knew of the impending shooting hut did nothing to prevent it, and later withheld vital information from subsequent inquiries. ■ Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland,

yesterday received two Channel 4 awards, as the people's and the politicians' choice, for her outstanding year.

Editor.

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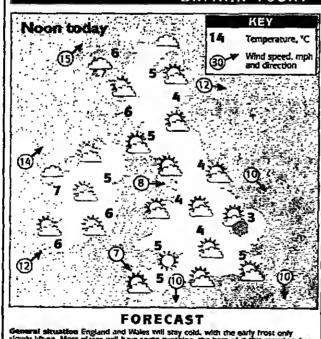
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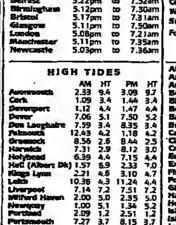
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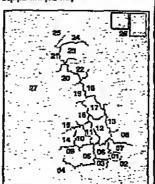
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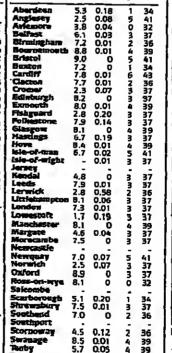
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SUN & MOON

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#### YESTERDAY



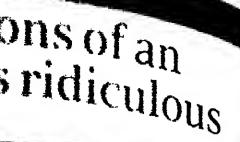
RAIN OR SHINE... FOUR PEOPLE were killed in

floods after torrential rain hit the coast of Australia's tropical Queensland state yester-The heaviest floods struck

the town of Gymple, 180km (110 miles) north of Brisbane, where the Mary River burst its Gympie was nearly totally immersed in floodwater yes-

THE WORLD YESTERDAY terday with the river peaking

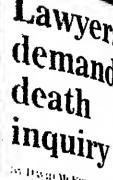
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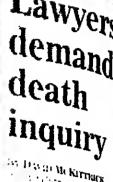


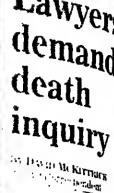
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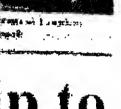
Lawyers demand death













were French.

stranger to death in the winter,

villages of Le Tour and Mont-

but the tragedy at the mountain



### Jean Marie Pavy (centre, with hat) and his family yesterday. They were rescued after the avalanche had destroyed their chalet Alpine paradise was smothered at 60mph

resting in the village of Argen-

tiere, two kilometres away, after

MICHEL, a softly spoken man By JOHN LICHFIELD m his thirties, stood, weeping, in Argentière between the enormous banks of snow in the village street. "No one dreamed anything like this could happen," he said. "These houses were in the

safest possible zone for avalanches. But what does anyone of us really know? When the mountain decides, the mountain decides. There is nothing you can do. I have lost people that I loved a great deal. Here, we have all lost people that we loved a great deal. The whole village is crying."

He turned away, unable to

say any more. The Chamonix valley was in a state of shock - and fear - yes terday after a monumental avalanche crushed 18 chalets in the hamlet of Montroc, at 4,600ft in the Mont Blanc massif, killing at least 10 people, including a family of five, an elderly couple and their fouryear-old granddaughter. Two other people were missing: 20 were rescued, including two Americans and a 12-year-old boy, found under several feet of snow and rubble. All the dead

Rescue work was continuing last night, with heavy digging and lifting equipment but hope of finding further survivors had been virtually lost. With temperatures falling to minus 7C, the snow had packed too hard for hands or shovels to

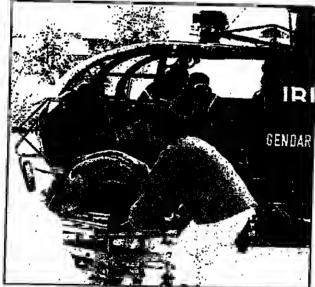
hours of digging in the packed snow and debris. avalanche crasbed into the valley bottom at an estimated 60mph. It crossed a stream and one part swept on for 30 to 40 yards uphill to consume a group of chalets on the opposite

Hence the sense of shock and fear among local people. "I

have lived here all my life and I have never heard of an avalanche so powerful, so low down to the mountains, and I have never heard of an avalanches capable of going

tres down the valley by the remainder of the avalanche. "It's borrible. There is nothing left," said Jean-Louis Verdier, the assistant mayor of Chamonix,

10 miles from the disaster scene. "Everything was wiped away. Where the chalets should be, there is a big bole." Jean-Marie Pavy, 49, wbo was staying in a house just out-



The 150-yard-wide, 18ft-high A casualty arriving by helicopter at Chamonix hospital member now falls like that.

said: "The chalet next to ours disappeared. It was pushed across the road. There were blocks of cement everywhere ... It was the apocalypse."

Other buildings, some local bomes and some holiday The 12-year-old French boy chalets, were carried 400 mewas pulled from several feet of the snow and rubble by rescuers working with sonic equip-ment and sniffer dogs after being trapped for several hours. He was taken to bospital with extreme hypothermia where his condition appeared to be desperate. But he was said to be recovering strongly yesterday.

This was the only real success of an arduous night for 200 rescue workers. After an initial flurry of rescues, all the victims recovered were dead, including the couple and their children aged 11 to 13. The four-year-old girl found in the wreckage of a chalet near the bodies of ber grand-parents seemed to be just alive but was declared dead on arrival in hospital in

Gendarmes and firemen returning from the rescue scene yesterday said nothing could have been done to prevent the tragedy. The highest level of avalanche alert had been given the day before, but the homes in Montroc were not regarded as under threat. The chalets were in a "white zone", regarded as almost completely free of danger. "We've had six feet of snow in three days," one fireman said. "No one can re-

Villages that were left defenceless

torway that runs into the mouth fallen on Montroc and Le Tour. The Savoyard village of Le Tour was the sort of high-mountain hamlet that photographers for the glossy ski brochures

avalanche struck. Le Tour and Mont Roc are snows each year but even the the home for some of the serious expatriate British skiers who spend the season in the Chamonix valley, skiing in the A week ago I dug a path a rugged resort of Argentière on metre deep to get into my ski the largely off-piste slopes of the chalet and since then more Grands Montets.

#### had no such avalanche deroc shocked even the most copters going to the rescue of fences. Lying at the bead of the Chamonix valley, and the pass, which is closed when it behardened residents. climbers and skiers. The harshness of the land-An avalanche brushed aside drooled over until the comes impassable, they had scape and its close proximity to Geneva has made Chamonix a learnt to live with the deepest

burial ground for the adventurous. The cemetery is filled with climbers who died young, following their sport. Every year brings fresh tragedies.

Owning a small mountain

sex, sometimes because inter-

course brings them more pain

than pleasure, according to a

new study of sexual behaviour

published yesterday in the

Journal of the American Med-

ical Association. Older women

Billed as the most compre-

MORE THAN a quarter of young BY DAVID USBORNE

women in America do not enjoy in New York

THE CHAMONIX valley is no BY COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

come used to seeing heli-

a large wood above the small community of Taconnaz, where Hive, a few years ago. Now the French have built an enormous wall as an avalanche defence for the village.

built to stop the Taconnaz glacier avalanching on to the mo-

Young women don't enjoy sex plode the popular notion that nificant public health concern."

> ence some form of sexual dysfunction, ranging from lack of desire to attaining an erection and reaching orgasm.

Most striking are the findings for younger women, aged by contrast reported fewer 18 to 29. According to the survey - conducted by researchers from the University of Chicago hensive investigation into adult and based on interviews with sex habits since the famed Kin- 3,400 adults - 27 per cent get sey report of 1948, the survey no pleasure from having sex painted an unexpectedly bleak and, if anything, consider it picture of sexual satisfaction. It an ordeal. The same view was

suggested that two in every five expressed by 17 per cent of women aged 50-59.

young people, or at least the study asserts. young women, enjoy the bottest sex. "For women, age is not various difficulties suffered by the big deal everyone assumes it is," Edward Laumann, one of the study's author, said yes-In their conclusion, the au-

thors said the results "indi-

cate that sexual problems are

of the Mont Blanc tunnel.

But Montroc and Le Tour

locals had never seen anything

like the quantity of snow which

fell in recent weeks.

widespread in society and are he said. influenced by bealth-related and psychosocial factors". The report suggests a realages of satisfying sex that saturate books, magazines, film and television. "This problem

Mr Laumann added that the men, including performance anxiety and premature ejaculation, explains the extraordinary success of the Viagra potency pill. "I think it gives us a base for explaining why we had this enormous response."

Experts yesterday offered an array of possible explanations for the study's gloomy ity that is at odds with the imern pressures of work to emotional and health problems as well as fear about sexual dis-The findings appear to ex- warrants recognition as a sig- eases, including Aids.

When you have that much fresh lodged itself and crashed down snow, piling up on other unstathe mountain since 1908. ble soft snow, anything can The last serious avalanche

5lopes are steeper than 30°

Winds lead to drifts

Tuesday 2.35pm

(1.35pm gmt); a tidal wave of snow 150

meters wide and 6

metres high crashes

Mont Percleret

down into the valley at

60 mph and buries much of the village of Montroc

A lot of new snow falls over a short period

Old snow melts and refreezes, encouraging new

At Montroc, heavy snow fell on Monday and Tuesday, but melting and refreezing of old snow was thought

The force of the

avalanche is so great that it sweeps through

Montroc and travels 40

metres uphill to smash

into the village of Le Tour. The avalanche

chalets as far as 400m

carries some of the

(a quarter of a mile)

Snow storms on Tuesday night prevent rescues by helicopter during the first vital hours. The snow is packed so tight that only mechanical diggers can hack their way through to the chalets

The danger from avalancharea, high in the valley of the es has been endlessly studied, Arve, on the shoulder of Mont plotted and tracked over the Blanc, near the French-Swiss years; defences have been border, was 21 years ago. An erected and buildings banned avalanche fell on the village of in the danger zones. The Tour, next to Montroc, deprocess is so old and so elabostroying two chalets and killing rate that each large, avalanche tains themselves. The wall of

site has a name, like the moun-

snow which fell on Montroc was

called the "Avalanche des

Pecleray". It was regarded as

Meteorologists have predicted that, partly because of the disruption of weather patterns by global warming, snow falls in the Alps will tend to be

case this year, with falls of six feet of snow in the Chamonix area since the weekend. If incident of any kind in this the pattern continues, all the conventional wisdom about

safe and dangerous zones for avalanches will have to be torn up.

There have been dozens of other avalanches in the French Alps in the last two days, most occurring safely high in the mountains. Three British holidaymakers - Paul Macey, 28, from Bristol, Karen Tinner, 28, also from Bristol, and Maddie Sidanie, 32, from Oxford - were

south of Chamonix. They were not deeply buried and managed to scramble free. Rescuers also found the

GRAPHIC: KRISTINA FERRIS ANO JULIAN SAUL

body yesterday of a 28-year-old Briton who disappeared in an avalanche while skiing off-piste near Courchevel, south of Chemonix.

Police and prosecutors have issued warnings that tough action will be taken against skiers who ignore warnings of avalanche dangers and leave marked trails.

The avalanche at Montroc er, and later in the season. engulfed by a snow slide at and it was all the more terrifytinct volcano: it had not dis- This has certainly been the Tignes les Brevieres, 50 miles ing for that reason.



VALENTINE'S DAY. SHOW YOUR HEART WITH Transfusions kill patients, say doctors

routinely to tens of thousands of critically ill patients may be killing them, doctors have found.

Canadian researchers have found that giving extra blood, despite its essential role in maintaining life, can cause more harm than good in those who have been thought in greatest need of it.

The unexpected finding. from a study of more than 800 critically ill patients, will deliver a serious blow to the idea of accident victims being stretchered into hospital with a bag of life-giving blood suspended

Doctors had assumed that any means of boosting oxygen supply to the body's tissues in those who were seriously ill would improve their chances of but more of them survived. survival. But the Canadian re- Among patients under 55 and search shows that critically ill patients who received more blood were up to twice as likely to die as those who received less.

In Britain, an estimated 800,000 patients receive blood transfusions each year, most after routine surgery, and demand for blood is rising. Using less blood would also save costs Ottawa say in the New England plus of blood for transfusion and conserve a scarce resource. Journal of Medicine: "Our find-rather than a shortage."

**Health Editor** 

The aim of a transfusion is to restore levels of haemoglobin, the oxygen-carrying constituent of red blood cells. Normal levels of haemoglobin range from 14 to 17 grams per decilitre. In the Canadian study, half of the 838 seriously unwell patients were given enough blood to raise their baemoglobin over 10 grams per decilitre, while the other half were restricted to only 7-9 grams per decilitre, half the normal level. One third of the restricted group received no blood at all. group received three units of blood (one and a half litres) less

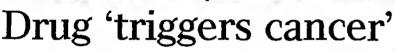
received less blood (or no blood at all) were half as likely to die as those who received more. The only exceptions were patients with heart attacks and unstable angina (chest pain). Dr Paul Hebert and his colleagues from the University of

ings indicate that the use of a threshold ... as low as 7 grams of haemoglobin per decilitre ... was st least as effective as and possibly superior to a liberal transfusion strategy ... in crit-

ically ill patients." It is well-known that giving too much blood or other infusions can cause heart attacks or water on the lungs because of the effort required to pump the extra liquid round the body. But the researchers found these factors could not explain the differences they found.

In a commentary on the findings, Wesley Ely and Gordon Bernard of the Vanderbilt School of Medicine, Nashville, say it is difficult to explain the harm caused by liberal transfusion. One possibility is that a transfusion, like a transplant, delivers a shock to the immune system. the less severely ill, those who "Harmless" viruses in the blood may also be implicated.

They say more trials are needed to determine the best treatment for critically ill patients. "With such knowledge, more physicians will be able to adhere to the dictum 'first do no harm', and we will have a sur-



A DRUG used to prevent tissue By STEVE CONNOR rejection after transplant operations may be the reason why these patients are more likely to develop potentially fatal cancers, scientists have discovered.

suppresses the immune system and so inhibits the body's natural mechanism for tissue rejection, directly alters cancer cells to make them highly dangerous, the study shows.

The findings have been called "provocative" by experts, some of whom remain unconvinced that cyclosoprine can directly inlieve immune suppression in

Science Editor

general creates the conditions for the creation of cancers.

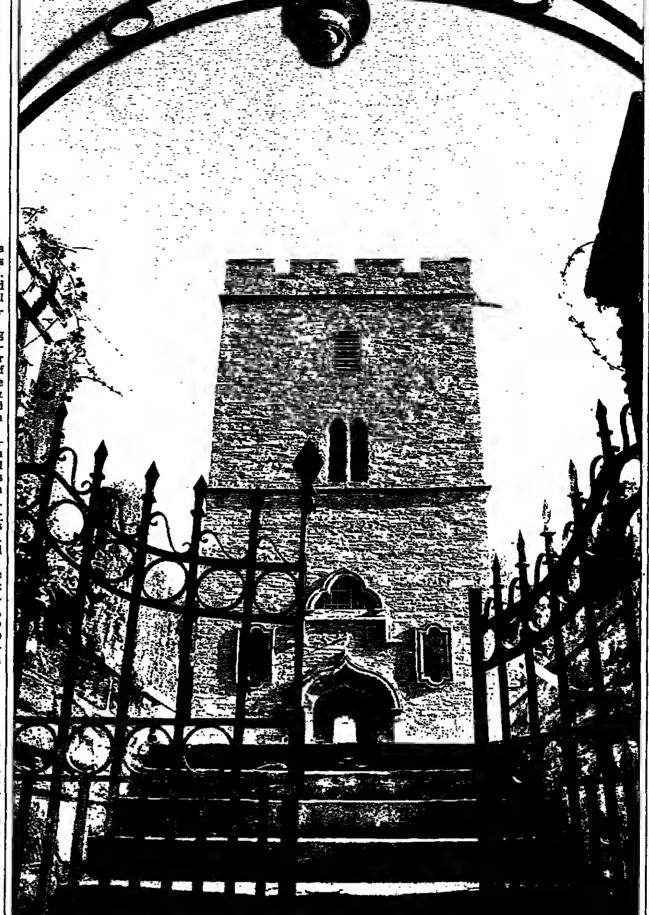
Cyclosporine is given to most Cyclosporine, a drug that . of the 2,500 patients who undergo organ transplants each year in Britain and experts are concerned that the research may frighten people off a drug that has saved many lives.

However, a team of Japanese scientists, led by Minoru Hojo of Teikyo University, and now at Cornell University in New York, found that cyclosporine causes stigate a cancer. The sceptics become mobile and "invasive".

This would make a cancer able to spread around the body.

In a research paper publisbed in the journal Nature they produce evidence to show the effects are also seen in laboratory animals, and that the observed changes can be reversed if cyclosporine is inhibited by a blocking agent further implicating the drug as a cancer-causing agent.

"Our findings suggest that immunosuppressants like cyclosporine can promote cancer progression by a direct cellular effect that is independent of its effect on the host's immune



Shobdon Church in Herefordshire, Britain's only rococo church, impressed some visiting Japanese businessmen so much they have decided to build a replica of it near Tokyo as a wedding chapel. The copy in Japan must be built to withstand earthquakes

Jury see pictures of Death Road

pens win fund

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

THE JURY in Britain's first Nazi war crimes trial was vesterday shown photographs in Eastern Europe where a South London pensioner is alleged to have murdered 20 Jews more than 50 years ago.

Over a period of several hours, the Old Bailey jury studied aerial and ground photographs of Domachevo, the town in Belarus where Polishborn Anthony Sawoniuk served with the police force during the Nazi occupation of 1941-44. The pictures showed the site of the Jewish ghetto, the sand hills on the outskirts of town where 2,900 Jews were killed in one day and the so-called Road of Death which linked the sand hills to the ghetto.

The evidence came during the third day of the trial of Mr Sawoniuk, 77, from Bermondsey, who is charged, under 1991 legislation, with four counts of murder in 1942. Mr Sawoniuk denies the charges.

Yesterday, John Nutting QC. for the prosecution, said it was important that the jury understood the layout of the town and its surrounding area.

In an unprecedented move. the court will next week visit

Each photograph shown yesterday featured a different overview of the town which suffered under the Nazis. Photograph 33 showed the ghetto where the Germans insisted the Jewish population live in cramped conditions, with virtually no food and under persistent harassment from the

Photograph 35 showed the town's Catholic church. The jury had previously been told it was from here that a witness. Galina Puchkina, saw the Germans lead hundreds of Jews to the sand hills. She remembered hearing the sound of gunfire as the men, women

and children were executed. Mr Nutting alleged that on one occasion, a witness saw Mr Sawoniuk order 15 women to strip naked before shooting them and pushing them into a

pre-dug grave.



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THE INTERNITATION OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

# Jury See Pensioners of Death Road Win £1.5bn funds battle

TWO PENSIONERS yesterday
won a six-year legal battle which
Labour Editor could present Britain's power industry with a bill for £1.5bn

The Court of Appeal ruled that privatised electricity companies had unlawfully plundered their pension funds of the money in order to finance redundancies and reduce liabilities.

The pensioners, David Laws and Reg Mayes, successfully argued that pensions were "deferred pay and not a pot of gold to be raided by fat cats". The judgment could set a precedent for pensioners in a wide range of industries which have adopted similar tactics.

In a ruling which affects all 21 companies in the power supply industry, three judges decided that National Power acted unlawfully when it took £250m from the Electricity Supply Pension Scheme. The ruling also applied to National

Grid's withdrawal of £46.3m. Mr Laws, 60, of Chatham in Kent, registered his anger over news that employers might take the case to the House of Lords. "We are pensioners and we want our money now," he said. "We don't want to wait another two years or more." He said the decision could result in payments of £10,000 to pensioners. "The average widow's pension is £20 a week. Many pensioners are on housing benefit and caught in the poverty trap. Why should more of them die in poverty?"

Mr Mayes, 75, of Ashtead in Surrey, said he was delighted by the result but the case had dragged on for far too long. "I have had a pensioner of 82 crying to me: Please do something about this'," he said

Peter Woods, of the plaintiffs' solicitors Stephens Innocent, said further delay would simply mean more pensioners would die without seeing the benefits of the litigation.

The appeal judges decided there was nothing in the rules of the pension scheme which gave employers unilateral power "to forgive themselves their liabilities to pay contributions which are already due".

The fund could not be "whittled away by unilateral decisions on their part", said Lord Justice Brooke, sitting with Lords Justices Nourse and Schiemann

However one drawback of yesterday's judgment was pointed out by Mr Justice Robert Walker, the High Court judge who found against the pensioners in 1997. He said that "any general exclusion of employers from surpluses would tend to make employers very reluctant to contribute to their pension schemes more than the bare minimum they

could get away with". He said it would be even more unfortunate if companies

final salary in favour of moneypurchase schemes which could be less advantageous to pensioners. The point was supported yesterday by Ken Jackson, leader of the engineering union, who described the ruling as "disastrous".

Harold Lewis, of the solicitors Eversheds, who represented National Grid, argued that yesterday's ruling made it clear that companies were allowed to withdraw money in their own interests where there was a surplus. He pointed out that a further

two-day hearing envisaged by the Court of Appeal would still have to address the question of how much money should go back into the fund and what should happen to it.

The industry's pension scheme benefits more than 200,000 people and has assets of £18bn. National Grid had taken 70 per cent of the 1992 surplus, with 30 per cent going to pensioners and scheme members, which reflected each side's respective contributions. The same policy has been adopted by other companies.

A spokesman for National Grid said the company was still scrutinising the judgment: "The full sums of money involved will not be known until we have had another hearing in court in two months' time."



Business Outlook, page 19 Reg Mayes (left) and David Laws yesterday at the High Court, where they won their pensions fight James Horton

#### MISSING BILLIONS

THE 200,000 electricity pensioners affected by today's ruling by the Court of Appeal could each stand to benefit by more than £500 a year if the National Grid does not appeal to the House of Lords.

While the case involved just the Grid, the ruling will set a precedent for all the other former state-owned electricity companies, including National Power, PowerGen and the regional electricity companies.

Bacon & Woodrow, a firm of actuarial consultants, estimate the pensioners would each be entitled to an average £7.500 share of the £1.5bn surplus which may have to be returned to the £18bn fund. That would mean a benefit of between £500 and £750 a year, or an extra £10 -15 a week. The exact figure will depend on the final salary and length of service of each pensioner.

Occupational pension schemes hold more than £650bn in member's assets and own more than one-third of the stock marker equity. According to Inland Revenue statistics, there is at least £4bn in official pension fund surpluses. But experts believe the real figure runs into tens of billions

Pension experts warned the case did not mean employees could claim ownership of surplus. And while the judgment says the National Grid scheme acted outside its powers, it did not Insist the £46m at issue must be refunded.

**ANDREW VERITY** 

### 'For sale: flat next to drug dealers' | 'Herd instinct' rules stock market

AN ESTATE AGENT was forced By Linus Gregoriadis to apologise yesterday over a candid newspaper advert for a flat which highlighted the property's close proximity to drug

The description of the £25,000 flat in Nailsea, near Bristol, which appeared in the Bristol Evening Post, read: "First-floor House. The advertised flat is in

Drug dealers next door Shops and local facilities nearby." The advertisement, by Hal-

ifax Property Services, struck a raw nerve in an area which is notorious for a council-owned tower block called Crown bedsit in generally good order a privately-owned block near by. confirmed the area was a drugs a nice, quiet area."

John Alvis, who lives in the flats, said yesterday: "There are no drug dealers here. It all goes on next door. I've been here for five years and although things seem to be getting hetter Crown House is still the target for a lot of police activity over

hlackspot. A spokesman said: "We are aware of problems." Jonathon Upton, of Halifax Property Services, played down the advert. "I understand there

was some kind of mistake in the ad, but it doesn't seem to have put off prospective buyers. I am told the schools near by are Avon and Somerset Police good and it is generally seen as

THE STOCK MARKET is ruled BY STEVE CONNOR as much by the "herd instinct" of traders, as any rational assessment of a company's

worth, scientists have found. The assessment, based on mathematical assumptions more familiar to physicists, has 'revealed that stock markets are a fundamentally irrational enterprise. Thomas Lux, professor

Science Editor

of economics at the University of Bonn, and Michele Marchesi of the University of Cagliari in Italy, show in the journal Nature that some traders exert a significant influence on share prices by merely following the crowd.

mentalist", expected prices to follow a company's future worth. The other the "noise trader", tried to identify what other traders would do in order to an-

strategies. One, the "funda-

ticipate price changes. "Instead of focusing on funtempt to identify price trends illogical reasons.

traders adopted two clear and patterns and also consider the behaviour of other traders as a source of information, which results in a tendency towards herding behaviour," the researchers say.

Within this group there are pessimists, who will sell shares irrationally, and optimists, who damentals, these agents at- will buy them for the same

### PRODUCT RECALL

#### RECALL OF PRESCRIBED CALPOL PAEDIATRIC SUSPENSION

A product recall has been issued by Warner-Lambert Consumer Healthcare concerning the following two prescription medicines:

Calpol Paediatric Suspension and Calpol Paediatric Sugar Free Suspension

The recalled products ore only available on prescription from your doctor in individually dispensed and labelled bottles. The paracetamol in the affected bottles has shown some signs of

the surface layer. If the product was shaken as directed prior to consumption, there should be no safety issue.

separation, which may have resulted in on increased paracetamol level in

As a precautianary measure, if you have received o prescribed version of Calpol ar another pink paracetamol suspension since the 1st of December 1998, DO NOT USE THIS PRODUCT. Please return the product to the pharmacist wha dispensed it, as soon as possible.

If any af this product has been given to your child in the last 2-3 days ar if you are in any way concerned, please speak to your doctor immediately.

This recall does not affect the following Calpol variants sold directly to the public by pharmacies i.e. sold without o prescription, in a purple carton:

Calpol Infant Suspension 70ml, 140ml and Sachets Calpol Sugar Free Infant Suspension 140ml and Sachets Calpol Six Plus and Calpol Six Plus Sugar Free Colour Free 100ml

Warner-Lambert is committed to providing safe and effective products to our patients. As part of that commitment, we ore working with the Medicines Cantrol Agency to ensure that this recall is accomplished as quickly os possible. We regret the necessity of this action and any inconvenience it may cause. We believe this action represents the appropriate precautianary measure. If you need further informatian, please call our Advisory Helpline: 0800 389 3897



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### Only one rail operator is hitting its targets

ONLY ONE train company in BY PHILIP THORNTON Britain is hitting the performance targets demanded by the Government, according to figures that reveal yet another slump in punctuality.

Under a new system of giving the 25 privatised train companies an exam-style A to E grade, only the tiny but heavily-Subsidised Island Line deserved the top mark. Another seven companies got a B with the remaining 17 classed as either mediocre or failing.

One operator, Silverlink, was awarded an E grade because of poor reliability.

Train operators are given grades for punctuality and reliability and the overall mark is the lower of the two. To qualify for an A for punctuality, operators must run at least 95 per cent of their trains on time, 90 per cent for a B, 85 per cent for a C and so on. Reliability is based on the number of trains cancelled, with an A grade for 99.5 per cent of services run,

and 99 per cent for B. Island Line, an 8.5 mile-long line on the Isle of Wight, won an A for running 95.0 per cent of trains on time and cancelling only 0.4 per cent. But figures published by the Office of Passenger Franchising (Opraf) show it receives 63.2p in taxpayer subsidy for every passenger mile - equivalent to £2.82 for every journey made. This could make it cheaper to Transport Correspondent

hire 8 taxi for each passenger. and nine stable. By contrast, Gatwick Express, the airport shuttle which won a B, pays back to the Treasury 7.7p per mile – an average re-

bate of £2.22 per journey. The detailed figures showed time-keeping worsened on more than half the network 45 route groups declining, 29 im-

DESPITE warnings, a

almost nothing has

■ South West Trains

escapes £1 m fine for

cannot achieve [your]

objectives by taking a

narrow and parochial

view of your business

letter of your legal

contracts and

and by standing on strict

obligations." John Swift

OC, Rail Regulotor, letter

■ Figures show trains

later than British Rail:

to roil companies, June 11

cancellations: "You

changed.

change of Government, a

new political agenda, and

plans for a new regulator,

same. Reliability was better with 37 improving, 31 declining

The regional breakdown re-Punctuality on Birmingham's Cross City North trains plunged 12 per cent to 74.3 per cent. In the month to November 12, Connex only managed to run 66 per cent of its Kent compared with a year ago with Link trains on time. ScotRail was the best major operator

WARNINGS THAT WENT IGNORED

"Passengers deserve

much better, bearing in

taxpayers going into the

privatised railway." John

mind the £1.8bn from

Prescott, Deputy Prime

Minister, May 11, 1998

million: "This shows how

passenger expectations."

Govin Strong, Transport

"This isn't a case of

'it's not broke, so don't

fix it'. It is broke, I intend

passerigers are going to

concern." John Prescott,

be at the forefront of my

■ Complaints hit one

far rail operators still

have to go to meet

Minister, July 1

to fix it and the

proving and three staying the with 95.9 per cent punctuality and 99.4 per cent reliability.

The Government condemned the performance as "disappointing". John Reid, the vealed some dramatic falls. Transport Minister, said: "Passengers are getting a poor service and this is unacceptable. The new league table highlights more clearly than before which train operators are permust try harder if they want a

■ Labour party

September 31

conference: "If the

current companies can't

make the trains run on

the companies that run

■ Punctuality falls -

again: "Once again

February 10 1999

the trains." John Prescott.

performance figures are

Passengers are getting a

unacceptable." John Reid.

Figures show only one

company performing

O'Brien, Fronchising

Director, February 10

well: "...the results are

not good enough." John

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before you answ

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NE B SH

numbers dialed Dedicated

poor service and this is

disappointing overall.

time, then I'll call time on

The figures come a fortnight before a public summit of the railway industry called by the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, after the last round of poor figures. The slump in performance comes despite a series of warnings to the industry.

John O'Brien, the Franchising Director, said: "Punctuality remains poor. The results are not good enough, and year on year results do not yet point to a widespread improvement."

The Central Rail Users' Consultative Committee, a passenger watchdog, said the performance by companies on

some routes was "truly awful". The Association of Train Operating Companies said they were working hard to improve reliability and timekeeping while managing the "massive growth in passengers and extra

James Gordon, Atoc director general, said: "Punctuality is proving a hard nut to crack in the face of such unprecedented growth. The fruits of the massive estment programme are beginning to come through but it will be some time before we see dramatic improvements.

Silverlink condemned the new system as misleading. Its managing director, Charles Belcher, said he was given an E grade because problems with train reliability on one stretch of line wiped out 8 B grade for punctuality.



Company	Punctuality %	Reliability %	Subsidy p
island Line	95.0	99.6	63.2
Scotter	95.9	99.4	21.2
Mersegraff Electrics	95.3	99.2	36.5
Central	93.1	99.5	22.7
Anglia .	92.0	99.5	7.6
WAGN	91.2	99.1	3.6
Great Eastern	90.8	99.6	1.5
Gatwick Express	90.1	99.6	-7.7
SUDS Rail	96.0	98.5	6.0
Northern Spirit	93.5	98.9	23.7
Wales & West	91.5	98.6	13.4
Connex SouthCentral	90.0	98.9	4.1
Thamesilnk	89.9	98.5	-1.3
Midland Mainline	89.8	99.8	0.5
South West Trains	89.5	99.4	2.9
Great North Eastern	88.3	99.2	1.7
Chiltern	86.4	99.4	5.8
West Coast	85.9	99.4	3.4
North Western Trains	90.9	98.2	35.5
Cardiff Railway	86.3	98.1	33.a
Great Western	84.5	99.0	4.0
Connex SouthEastern	83.8	98.7	4.9
Thames Trains	83.7	98.6	5.1
CrossCountry	82.3	99.3	8.1
Branch Charles		33	0.1
Silverlink Trains	91.2	97.9	7.2
Fain operatous are sended for			

Train operators are graded for punctuality and reliability and then grouped into a final category by taking the lower of the two marks. Punctuality grades are: A = 95+; B = 90+; C = 85+; D = 95+80+; E - below 80. Reliability grades are: A - 99.5+; B - 99+; C - 98.5+; D - 98+; E - below 98.

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### 'Baby hearts used for experiments'

A HOSPITAL at the centre of a scandal over failed heart operations removed organs from some of the children who did not survive and kept them for research without telling their parents. A total of about 180 hearts are thought to have beeu removed and kept after unsuccessful operations at the Bristol Royal Infirmary between 1983 and 1995.

An investigation into children's heart surgery at the hospital found seriously high rates

of mortality and brain damage. Two surgeons, James Wisheart and Janardan Dhasmana, and John Roylance, who ran the Bristol United Healthcare Trust, were found guilty of serious professional misconduct. Dr Roylance yesterday launched an appeal against being struck off

he medical register. With a public inquiry due to start next month, solicitors for the parents of the children said

have learnt of the practice of keeping organs until now, but they understood it was happening nationwide. The organs were kept after post-mortem

Machaela Willis, chair of the Bristol Children's Heart Action Group, said the disclosure would cause great distress: "It was known that hearts had been retained without knowledge or consent in isolated cases. But the trust had not made us aware until

tained systematically. The shock and sorrow this disclosure will cause to parents is incalculable."

The trust has asked the action group, which represents around 300 families largely from the South-west and south Wales, for help in contacting families concerned

Laurence Vick, leading solicitor for the group at the inquiry due to open on 16 March, said given events at the hospi-

so long for this to emerge.

Helen Rickard, 32, of Bristol, said she believed she was the first parent to discover that her child's heart had been kept by the hospital. Her daughter Samantha died aged 11 months after an operation in February 1992. It was only in May 1996, when she was examining Samantha's medical records, that she learnt the truth: "It was

apologised and returned the organ, which she now proposes to donate for research.

A spokeswoman for the Bristol Royal Infirmary said the matter would be raised at the public inquiry. "We acknowledge there will be distress and we regret that." But she said the majority of post-mortem examinations were requested by the coroner and there was no legal requirement for parents' a great shock and I was very disconsent to be obtained in those sed," she said. The hospital circumstances.

Nicholas Harvey, Liberal chief executive of the United Democrat MP for North Devon, who has constituents affected by the Bristol scandal, said that he would ask Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for

Health, for a review of laws governing the removal of organs.from dead patients. "The tragic story of babies' deaths at the BRI just gets worse and worse. It's extremely upsetting for the parents of babies who

died." he said. Dr John Roylance, former Bristol Healthcare Trust, yesterday began an appeal before the judicial committee of the Privy Council against being struck off. Robert Francis QC, for Dr

Roylance, said that Sir Donald Irvine, the chairman of the General Medical Council which cooducted the disciplinary hearing, had failed to dis close that his own grandchild was being treated for a heart

### Master quits hunt named in cruelty allegations

By Kim Sengupta

ONE OF the masters of a prestigious hunt accused of trapping foxes alive so they can be used for sport has announced he is giving up his position.

Major John Shaw's retirement from the Sinnington Hunt was revealed to members days after The Independent revealed the hunt was facing a fresh investigation into allegations that an artificial fox earth. was found on its land. They were also told that a terrierman with the hunt will not have his contract renewed.

Nine mouths ago, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals rescued a pair of three-month-old cubs, with their ears mutilated, from the hunt's land in North Yorkshire. Last month, the RSPCA began another investigation after photographs and videos were produced, allegedly showing evidence of an artificial earth in the area.

On Boxing Day last year, hounds from the hunt killed a cat in a garden in Kirkbymoorside, and posters began to appear, put up by local farmers,





and the caption: "Latest from Sinnington pantomime productions, Puss in Bits".

A month earlier, Ryedale District Council ordered the hunt to remove an incinerator used for animal carcasses. which it said had been causing air pollution.

prosecution over the cubs in December last year, because, it said, it did not have enough evidence. Major Shaw was questioned along with the



The Sinnington Hunt from which Major Shaw has retired as master. Top left: How 'The Independent' revealed it was facing a new investigation joint masters Andrew Osborne

and Adam Waugh. They all denied any involvement in the The RSPCA dropped the

Prior to his resignation. Major Shaw had been associated with the hunt most of his life. His father was a master of the hunt before him. He refused

day, referring inquiries to the Countryside Alliance. A source close to the hunt said he expects to continue riding as a member

There is no suggestion that Major Shaw was in any way involved in the allegations over the fox cubs or the artificial

ation News says, "It's radically different there are so many features about it that recommend it to the learner." The Bankers

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fluency." "They did two years work in three

those using conventional courses. Australian TV news reported "Astonishing

Mestle, Lloyds Bank etc.

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According to the source he around the country applied the had demanded that the matters be fully investigated.

The RSPCA said last night: "It is clear that after a number of embarrassing incidents involving the Sinnington Hunt Major Shaw had decided to loosen his links with the hunt.

same standards we would see lots of other retirements and resignations.

Last night, Major James Holt, chairman of Sinnington Hunt committee said: "The hunt committee does not employ the terrierman, that is

"I would not like to speculate about the reason for Major Shaw's resignation, but from the letter he sent me it appears to be a financial one. I am not aware he is embarrassed by the

hunt. As a hunt, we do seem to

get much more than our fair

share of adverse publicity and

condition Shelley Fox wins

fashion

BY MELANIE RICKEY **Fashion Writer** 

award

THE FIRST major prize dedicated to giving young British designers a kick start in the fashion industry was awarded last night by the Jerwood Foundation in London-based Shelley Fox.

The award, worth £125,000. includes a cash prize of £20,000. a retail order with the London department store Liberty worth £25,000, sponsorship for two London Fashion Week collections, a £50,000 interest free loan and a free studio for one year. Iu short, a dream come true for the 32 year old Scunthorpe-born designer who has struggled against the odds to

keep her business afloat, This is the first time the first involvement in fashion for the Jerwood Foundation, launched in 1997 by the late John Jerwood to offer dedicated and responsible funding and sponsorship to the arts, sciences, and cultural arena. It has run a prize for artists since 1994 and for film

scriptwriters since 1998. Shelley Fox graduated in 1996 from Central Saint Martins, and her first collection was picked up by Liberty. "My clothes ... are about a feeling. Anyone can wear them because they are not fitted to the body in an obvious way. Rather the garment gives the body

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### A big grin from the PM as he delivers his catchphrase

now has the same status in Tony opposite - he values his trade-Blair's question-time sessions as the portly outline of Alfred Hitchcock did in that director's films. Aficionados know for certain that it will turn up at some point-indeed, that without it, a vital token of authenticity will be missing.

The little ritual became something of a trial for Hitchcock himself, who placed his cameo appearances closer and closer to the beginning of his films as his career progressed - anxious to get the trivial distraction out of the way so that the audience would settle down and start paying attention. For

THE PHRASE "boom and hust" Mr Blair the procedure is quite the mark's capacity to induce a temporary amnesia in the audience and likes to toy with their mounting sense of anticipation.

He can be quite sly about this last week, for instance, he used boom and bust" in his very first sentence, as though he'd decided not to tease them at all, but then he surprised fans of the alliterative double act by bringing them on for an eocore in his final sentence.

Yesterday he beld out for quite some time - though this wasn't en-tirely a matter of choice. William Hague, so lacklustre last week,

had been invigorated by a tonic -the Foreign Affairs Committee's report on the Sandline affair, a spicy tincture of evidentiary hearings which has got the blood singing in the Opposition leader's veins. Mr Blair shook his head sadly as Mr Hague detailed the gravity of the charges against civil servant and minister. Obviously no prospect of getting "boom and bust" in here it would be like Hitchcock trying to insimuate himself into a pessing line of schoolgiris, by dressing in a pinafore frock and pigtails.

Mr Hague had a following wind concerned, but he ran up all his sails



and used every breath of it, bearing down on the Prime Minister in as far as the Sandline report was a way which seemed to rally the mutinous swabs on the lower decks.

Mr Blair, forced to tack frantically upwind, was much less impressive, betraying the fact that his people had read the document rather less carefully than Mr Hague's; the Prime Minister's insistence that it included nothing that hadn't already been in the Legg inquiry had the Opposition leader on his feet at once, pointing out that the report specifically criticised the fact that Legg had "been misinformed".

But then Mr Hague raised the issue of election tax promises, inviting Mr Blair to tell the House "how much taxes have risen since he took office?" At first Mr Blair blustered about Labour tax cuts, provoking

Tory backbenchers to yelp like leashed hounds that have scented a fox (the vehemence with which they shout "Answer! Answer!" acts as a pretty accurate register of the sharpness of the question being avoided). "I hope he hasn't done his own self-assessment, or he's going to he in trouble", mocked Mr Hagne, and the pack howled even louder.

Now was Mr Blair's moment. We've rejected the politics of boom and bust", he said, unable to keep a broad grin off his face as the House roared with long delayed gratification. The Liberal Democrats seemed particularly delighted, one even punching the air with both

cessful spread bet on the particular minute at which the Prime Minister's signature slogan would finally make its entrance.

As Mr Blair sat down be was still chuckling, probably gleefully amazed that it should be so easy. He had flagrantly dodged two sharp questions from Paddy Ashdown, casually dismissed a humiliating report from an all party-committee and side-stepped several bullisb charges from the Opposition leader and yet the mood (at least on the opposition benches) was one of amiable hilarity. No more boom and bust? Lots more, I would guess.

### Blair accused of arrogance on arms report

TONY BLAIR came under fierce Tory attack for his "arrogance and contempt" vesterday after he dismissed the findings of a Labour-dominated Commons committee oo the arms-to-Sierra Leooe affair as "dispro-

portionate and unfair". William Hague, the Tory leader, accused the Prime Minister during question time of failing to take responsibility, even though the damning report had lescribed failure at every level of the Foreign Office".

In a highly critical report, the Select Committee on Foreign Affairs said the Foreign Secretary's most senior official, Sir John Kerr, had "failed in his duty to ministers" and should be held responsible for the débacle. The investigation was launched after British mercenaries shipped arms in breach of a UN ban, with the apparent knowledge of some officials.

In angry exchanges, Mr Blair stressed that at the time of the affair in 1998, when rebels were trying to take power in Sierra Leone, the Government was heing urged to provide more belp to the democratically elected regime. "It is important

FOREIGN AFFAIRS BY SARAH SCHAEFER Political Reporter

not to, with the benefit of hindsight, apply counsels of per-

fection, when we take account of the context of the time, are not fully justified," he said. But Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, urged Mr Blair to support German proposals to publish the Euro-

pean Union's arms control code of conduct report so that "these scandals" would not happen again. "Whilst the Government has been playing pass-the-parcel with the blame over the last year for this, the terrible tragedy in Sierra Leone has simply repeated itself. The rebels who were defeated by Sandline arms, have now heen re-armed, apparently with the assistance of another British company," he said. "Unless and until we set up a proper international regime for the control of arms, these scandals will not end, they will go on, again

and again and again." Replying, Mr Blair said the Government had taken the lead in tightening arms sales both in Britain and the EU. The real issue was not actually Sandline, or even the foreign affairs committee report, but what was dooe about the situation in Sierra Leone. Rebels had been re-armed by sources "wholly outside this country".

Launching his criticism, Mr Hague claimed the Government had dismissed the report before it was even published. He told Mr Blair: should be exonerated before the report had even been published, If Robin Cook, not civil servants, is not to be held responsible for the condition of the Foreign Office, then who is?

"Isn't it actually a story of incompetence and half-truths and secrecy and contempt for parliament, for which the Foreign Secretary is responsible and for which you are responsible ... are you going to take the report seriously, or are you going to treat this House, its committees and their reports with complete arrogance?"

Mr Blair insisted that the Government would "respond carefully" to the committee's



Daphne Hayes-Mojon, the Mayor of Lambeth, Eliott Bernard, the chairman of the South Bank Board and Kate Hoey, the Vauxhall MP, meeting at London's South Bank where they provisionally opened the Jubilee Garden, which is to be renovated

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but where will they be next year?

### MP accuses family of Schools plot to kill daughter

A BRADFORD Asian family employed private detectives. bounty hunters and hit men to seek out and kill their \*once much-loved" daughter and her husband because she refused to marry the man of her parents' choice, a Labour back-

bencher said yesterday. Ann Cryer, the MP for Keighley, told a silent Commons during a short debate on women's rights of Jack and Zena Briggs who had committed the "untorgivable crime of falling in

love and ultimately marrying".
"Zena's fate had been sealed virtually from birth when her parents promised her to a first cousin in Pakistan, a young man she despised, regarded as arrogant, with no English, who

THE LABOUR backbencher WALES

Rhodri Morgan yesterday dis-missed as "desperate" claims

that he would stage a backroom

coup to install himself as First

Mr Morgan spoke out amid

and rebel Labour members of

the Weish Assembly would

team up to elect him even if he

lost the Labour leadership con-

test to Alun Michael, the Sec-

The row broke out as it

Secretary of Wales.

SUNDAY

14 FEB

8.00PM

BY SARAH SCHAEFER

tempt. Six years ago, when Jack and Zena decided to run away and marry they knew there would be problems but hoped that eventually her family would accept Jack as his family accepted Zena.

"To this day a death sen-tence is hanging over them and through the years this oth-erwise decent Bradford Asian detectives, bounty hunters and hit men to seek out their once much-loved daughter for the purpose of killing her and her

She added: "The question I

Morgan denies 'coup'

AND BARRIE CLEMENT

emerged that another major

trade union had voted to give

the Cardiff West MP its support

in the harmaning, biller couldn't to lead the party in the Assem-

bly in May. The Manufacturing

Science Finance union has

voted by a clear majority for Mr

Morgan, adding to backing al-

ready given by Unison and the

BY PAUL WAUGH

into such unsuitable marriages? The answer often given is that it is their culture and that outsiders such as myself should oot interfere in what are essentially community and family matters. I cannot accept this view."

Condemning decisions by Muslim families to circumcise their daughters, Bowen Wells, chairman of the international development select committee and You MP for Hertiord, confirmed that Harley Street had been mentioned as "being a place where this has been carried out". He added: "We in this country must be vigilant in

played down suggestions that he

would stage a coup similar to

that which saw Ken Livingstone

take over the GLC in the 1980s.

said: "Rhodri wants this job one

way or mother ... a feet Ken

Mr Morgan dismissed the

focused on victory and nothing

scenario is not implausible."

One Labour party source

have asked myself is, why are It is against the law of this families prepared to go to these

#### chief defends his style

BY JUDITH JUDD Education Editor

CHRIS WOODHEAD, the Chief Inspector of Schools, was yesterday challenged by MPs about criticism that his personal style is too confrontational.

Critics have suggested that his forthright views about teachers and schools depress the profession's morale. But Mr Woodhead told the Commons **Education Select Committee** that the work of his office (Ofsted) in discovering and publicising schools' weaknesses had helped raise standards. Morale was not helped by drawing a veil over mediocrity, he said.

The chief inspector, who was appearing before the commit-tee days after he had to apologise for remarks about teacher-pupil sexual relationships, said his "blunt" style would not change. "It is oecessary that the message which emerges from inspections should be communicated with

absolute clarity," he argued. He dismissed a suggestion that a supervisory board would make Ofsted more accountable. arguing he was answerable to idea as "pure dirty tricks" on the part of his opponents but re-fused to reject the idea. "I am Parliament through this committee, to the Prime Minister and to the Public Accounts Committee, and a board would "blur" his personal responsibility

#### Concorde tally

retary of State for Wales.

NINE GOVERNMENT ministers have taken scheduled flights on Concorde on 14 occasions since Labour came to office. This compared with a total of 11 ministers who travelled on Coocorde on 13 occasions during the last two years of the last Tory government.

Farmers' costs

PROPOSED REFORMS to the EU's Common Agricultural Policy could cost Britain's

#### QUESTIONS AND

Fire Brigades Union.

ANSWERS

said the Agriculture minister, Lord Donoughue.

Arts 'desperation'

MUSEUMS, OPERA, theatre and film had to be on the verge of collapse before they received Government help, the Earl of Gowrie, a former Arts Council chairman, said.

#### Taxing time

else," he said.

WILLIAM HAGUE said taxes had gone up £6.3bn, £260 for every taxpayer, in pension taxes, in petrol taxes and in mortgage taxes, as a result of the last two budgets.

**GM** attack

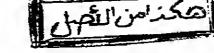
JACK CUNNINGHAM, the Cabinet Officer Minister called William Hague irresponsible for backing a moratorium oo genetically modified crops. Britain's biotechnology expertise could bring big benefits for health and agriculture.

#### THE HOUSE



#### MPs on hate-list

THE NAMES of 52 MPs are on an anti-abortion website listing details of "baby butchers", the Labour MP Ann Clwyd said.



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Total payable £10,499.54
Term 25 months
24 monthly payments of £107.21
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payment £4:514.00

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windscreen and heated washer jets.

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Balance £8,450.00
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Total payable £14,634.00
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\*Included for a limited period

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Total credit charges £1,279.00¹
Total payable £15,299.00
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24 monthly payments of
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Optional final purchase
payment £5,594.00

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Amazon took cash for positive reviews BY ANDREW MARSHALL

in Washington AMAZON.COM, the online book shop which has been the darling of the media and the stock market for the past year, has admitted that it accepts cash in return for endorsing products. The company has also removed an invented review of a forthcoming biography on Monica Lewinsky from its site, raising questions about its reliability.

The embarrassing setbacks come as the stock market rethinks its love affair with the Internet and other electronic traders also hit problems. Ecommerce is coming of age in the US, and it is proving painful.

of books on its website, with comments and recommendations, as well as a bestseller list. Customers can buy these electronically and have them delivered. For the past year, it has been the subject of endless fascination in the world media as the prototype of a new company one that exists only elec-



and a welt-composed site.

But some of the magic has been dissipated by news of how the reviews end up on Amahas been soliciting payments of Grisham's The Testament paid up to \$10,000 for prominent for prominent coverage, inplacement of books in what it cluding e-mail alerts to customers.

MADE UP Praise for Andrew Morton's

REVIEW WAS

Monica's Story on Amazon's website ralsed eyebrows mainly because the book had not been published. "I thought I knew it all, but Monica's Story blew me away." wrote Peter Feld. who later admitted he had Invented the review. It was subsequently removed from the site. But yesterday, another review had

appeared, under the name of Boygeorge@yahoo.com from Oval Office, DC. He gave it one star out of five saying: "It blows. No cigar. No blue dress. Just yap, yap yap, yap about some cheesecake she ate last night." That, too, was removed within hours.

bought one of the recommended books. From next month, it will list which features on its pages are paid for.

the founder.

But the financial side of Amazon.com has also raised questions. It is a huge business, with 4.7 million books sold, 6.2 million customers and \$1bn in business last year. The company's stock went from 9 to 199 as investors went crazy over the prospects for e-commerce, giving it a value of over \$25bn.

Yet its losses actually increased last year, and it is unlikely to make a profit until 2001. Since the beginning of this year, the stock has halved in value. Some investment firms have limited the amount of cash which investors could bor- the companies' benefit.

row to gamble on e-stocks It is not the only company facing problems. E-Trade, the online brokerage, is being sued after its trading system crashed four times. And Buy.com, an online retailer, lost more than \$60,000 after potting the wrong price on a computer monitor.

Partly, these are problems of success. The online services have grown so rapidly that they are having trouble keeping up. But it is also a problem of age. The United States is ceasing to see online commerce as a fascinating toy, and starting to treat it seriously, not always to

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calls "co-operative" arrangements. Companies representzon.com's pages. The company ing books such as John

company responded swiftly, offering refunds to everyone who had not consider them suitable. "We have the largest staff of book editors online or off, and for a book that doesn't meet our standards, there is no amount

TV coming to Sky sets

> THE SATELLITE broadcaster BY PAUL MCCANN BSkyB announced yesterday that from the autumn it will be able to offer customers access to e-mail and the Internet homes by autumn. On top of the through their television screens. e-mail system, Sky Digital sub-

Open, the interactive televi-BT, Panasonic and the HSBC bank, announced its launch plans and added Dixons, Argos and Somerfield to a list of retailers that will be offering goods through the system.

But analysts predict the main draw will be a system allowing customers to hook a telephone line up to a television set so that messages can be written and received without buying a computer. Up to seven people in each household will be able to have their own e-mail address through the system, which will operate with the use of a £30 keyboard. Open is making its system as

easy to use as possible by teaming up with Philips to manufacture an infra-red keyboard, which merely needs to be pointed at the television like a large remote control. The company's interactive services will be free to subscribers to Sky's digital channels and users will be able to send messages for the price of a phone call. Interactive television should

be a reality by spring, with a full service available in one million households by autumn. Yesterday BSkyB said it had signed up 350,000 households to

its digital service since it launched in October. It is fore-

scribers will be able to play in-

access bank accounts, and book theatre and concert tickets. As well as the three retailers announced yesterday, subscribers will be able to shop at Woolworths and Iceland, and Open is looking to sign up

music and video retailers, travel companies and health and beauty stores. The home shopping system just needs a normal remote control and for viewers to connect their telephone line to the back of a Sky Digital set-top box. Food, videos or tickets can be bought by selecting from on-screen menus. The system will remember what you buy regularly and

ask if you want it again. Goods can be paid for by credit card or by setting up a virtual bank account with HSBC. Other charges will include the price of phone calls to order products, but browsing around the bome shopping channels will be free. "We envision families being able to sit down and choose presents for this Christmas through their television sets, said a company spokesman. "The economics of the system will make it possible for the entire population to have their own e-mail address.

BSkyB interim results. Business, page 18

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IN BRIEF

Cannibal killer jailed for life

A KILLER who cooked and ate part of his victim was jailed for life yesterday after pleading guilty to manslaughter on grounds of diminished responsibility. Teesside Crown Court was told David Harker, 24, of Darlington, Co Durham, could kill again. Julie Paterson, 32, was strangled last April and her dismembered body found on wasteland.

**Building society raids charges** 

CHRISTOPHER WOOD, 52, charged with committing 16 armed raids on building societies, was remanded in custody by magistrates in Tamworth, Staffordshire, yesterday. Mr Wood, of no fixed address, had already appeared in court facing 10 robbery-related charges.

Vlagra users look for cheap thrill

DESPERATE VIAGRA users are chopping up their pills to save money, risking increased side effects from the antiimpotence drug, according to a report in the GP5' newspaper Doctor. The side-effects include headaches. flushes and occasional visual disturbance.

Getty's Irish passport cost £1m

THE SON of John Paul Getty has bought an Irish passport for Irgim in a scheme which considers investments made in the Republic and their job creation potential. The government was unable to specify how Tara Getty, 30, had contributed to the economy.



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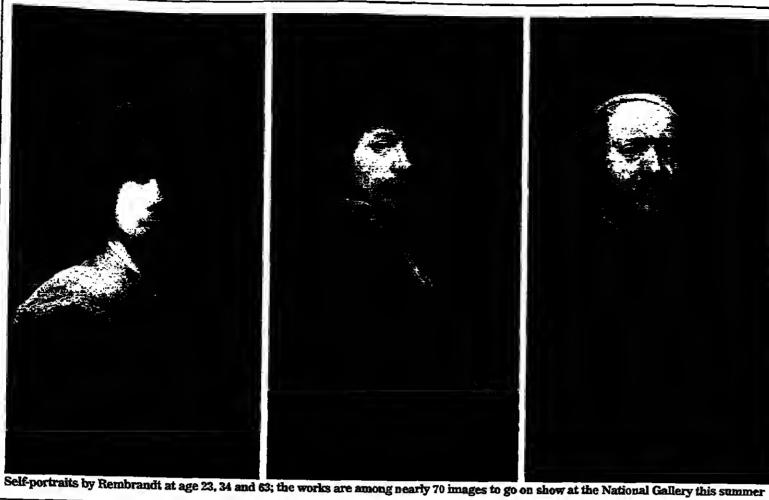
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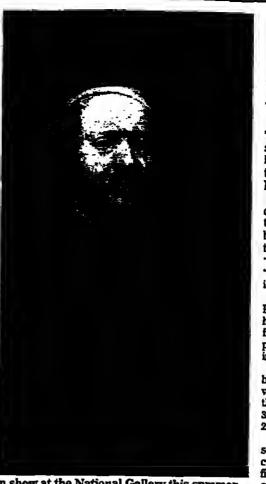
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Rembrandt's face as never seen before

THE NATIONAL Gallery is to BY DAVID LISTER stage a unique Rembrandt exhibition this summer, bringing together for the first time nearly all the artist's self-portraits. tures.

Neil MacGregor, gallery director, said yesterday that there had never been an exhibition of the artist's self-portraits anywhere in the world. "It's a startling fact," be said. "It seems such an obvious

No artist before or since Rembrandt has portrayed himself with such obsessive frequency, leaving 70 images paintings, drawings and etch-The National Gallery has

borrowed from public and private collections in Europe and the United States to assemble 30 paintings, 8 drawings and all 29 of the etchings.

They record Rembrandt's self-image from youthful insecurity to the booming self-confidence of his middle years and, in his late portraits, an ex-

Arts News Editor

amination of his ageing fea-

One portrait shows the artist at the foot of the cross taking part in the Crucifixion. Mr MacGregor said this was a statement that all humanity had to share responsibility. Another work shows Rembrandt in the pose of a famous portrait of a poet by Titian. This, said Mr MacGregor, was a declaration that the painter could explore emotions, love and tragedy as

much as the poet. Many such artistic statements and insights into art history will be evident in the array of self-portraits. A painting from 1640 of Rembrandt at the age of 34 shows him in elegant pose and splendid costume both echoing and challenging his Renaissance predecessors. In the decade of personal and professional set-

backs after the death of his wife

Saskia in 1642, the number of self-portraits he painted declined dramatically. When he returned to painting himself. he often abandoned elaborate dress and glamorous poses to confront himself frankly as a working artist with brush and palette in hand.

Mr MacGregor said that in

the late portraits and his observation of his own ageing features, "Rembrandt revels in his ability to sculpt the image in paint, engaging us in the very process of making a masterpiece. It was for such virtuoso displays of painterly technique - as much as for his image that Rembrandt selfportraits were prized."

Also included in the exhibition are groups of self-portrait paintings and drawings by Rembrandt's pupils, revealing how his images influenced

The exhibition - Rembrands by Himself - opens on 9 June and runs until 5 September.

### Euro tax threat to UK art

MINISTERS are drawing up urgent measures to try to protect Britain's £2.5bn art market amid claims that business may be driven abroad.

They have been warned that the impact of European Union taxes - and harmonisation of vaine added tax on arts, antiques and jewellery - will weaken the European market.

Although Britain opposes the harmonisation plan, other EU members, led by the German presidency, are expected to go ahead with the levy at a meeting in Brussels on 25 February.

The measure would raise VAT on the items from 2.5 per cent to 5 per cent in Britain by June this year Even with the introduction in 1995 of a reduced rate of VAT, sales have fallen by nearly 30 per cent.

A second blow will come with the introduction in this country of the droit de suite levy, which for 70 years after an artist's death is charged at between 2 per cent and 4 per cent of every resale of the art work, other than sales between individuals. The money, after administration costs, is given to the artist's family.

While the change will benefit artists, it could drive dealers out of the EU altogether and build up rival centres such as New York and Geneva where no such taxes apply.

The British Art Foundation has warned that London's pivotal position in the global art scene, where it holds about 40 per cent of all art sales and employs 40,000 people, will be destroyed at a stroke.

Kim Howells, the Trade and Industry minister, admitted Political Reporter

that he saw "no possibility" that the European Commission might change its mind on the matter. "We have searched for allies as the previous government searched for allies," he said.

But while the Government was determined to fight the measures, Britain had no automatic right to block them.

The Tory MP Virginia Bottomley, a former secretary of state for national heritage, said the British art market was "formidably successful" and it was

vital ministers fought its cause. The market was not only an "enormous cultural asset" but also a "great commercial contributor".

David Heathcoat-Amory, the shadow chief secretary to the Treasury, said anticipation of the droit de suite was already damaging the London and UK markets. "Objects for sale will simply be transferred away from this country, out of the UK and out of the EU. I have to conclude that there is some resentment or jealousy that the British art market in London is not fully European," he said.

"The Council of Ministers in two weeks' time are engaging in an act of quite unnecessary vandalism."

Peter Brooke, the president of the British Art Market and Tory MP for the Cities of London and Westminster, added: "These moves will not enlarge the EU market, they will simply export trade and jobs to competitors who could be forgiven for scarcely believing their good fortune."

### **Emergency Services** don't run out of vehicles.

#### **Fugitive sniffed** out by halitosis

AS A method of throwing the po- BY CLARE GARNER lice off the scent, disappearing underwater and breathing through a pipe was quite ingenious. But while the young fugitive was neither seen nor heard, his bad breath gave him away.

Steven Jones's James Bondstyle escape ended when a police dog. Barney, got a whiff of his breath. The German shepherd picked up the scent emanating from Jones' makeshift breathing apparatus - a long piece of pipe used as a snorkel Details of the bizarre arrest

emerged yesterday, when Jones, 19, from Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, appeared in the local magistrates court. He was released on unconditional bail after admitting to burgling a B&Q garden centre in Stokeon-Trent and stealing equipment worth £400.

The chase which ended in the underwater escapade to pick out the scent."

began when Constable Keith Booth was called to the garden centre at 2.30am on 16 July last year and saw a man running away. "Barney started chasing and was slowly but surely catching up with him as they ran towards the river," he said. "I was following close behind. but as I reached the river bank there was an eerie silence - you could feel the stillness. It appeared that the man had simply vanished into thin air."

Barney ran barking into the river Trent, forcing Mr Jones to the surface. He had been underwater for 10 minutes.

PC Booth, who has spent 13 years with the dog section, said: The man thought he could outwit him by camouflaging his smell underwater. Unfortunately for him, Barney managed

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TONY

have thought, was a bit decadent for a working lunch. But then this is the City of London, which yesterday learnt that it beads the European wealth league. Yesterday, inner London, of which the City forms a part, knocked the previous leader, Hamburg, into second place by a considerable mar-The rosé fizz was £39.50 a

PINK CHAMPAGNE, you might

By Paul Vallely

bottle, with smoked salmon sandwiches at £2.70 a round. A special occasion? I asked the round-faced youth in his plain blue Italian suit in the wine bar near the new multi-million pound Broadgate Centre which houses financial wealthcreators like Warburg, UBS and Lehman Brothers.

"No," be said, "some days we have the pink and some days the brut.

But this is a tale of two lunches. Five minutes up the road Helen Darcy, a solitary pensioner, was finishing off ber midday meal in the Kingsland cafe in the borough of Hackney. Egg and chips was £1.80, but today she had splashed out and had bacon too, which brought it to £2.45, plus 30p for a mug of tea.

She eats out there twice a week. It is cheaper than eating in for some meals, she said. It helps her eke out the £50 a fortnight sbe draws for food Hackney is part of the outer

Loodon area which earns only one-third of what inner London does, according to the European Union's statistical service, Eurostat.

Once you had to go to the Third World to find wealth and poverty sitting in such cheekby-jowl proximity. And while it is true that the contrasts might not be as severe as in somewhere like Ethiopia, where the Addis Ababa Hilton stands surrounded by mud huts and shanty homes, the contrast in London today is grim and

In modern Britain, the gap between rich and poor continues to grow, it seems. The sta-

City, the average gross wage, according to the National Statistics Office, is £749.50 a week, compared with £565.30 in

borough of Lewisham. But these are only averages. The City wine bar is surrounded by a world of smart restaurants with private rooms, Dyorak lunchtime concerts, and jewellers shops so swish that they don't display the price in the window (£390

tistics give a hint of it. In the for a nice set of plain white gold cuff-links, when you ask).

Poverty is a rare sight among the wealth of the business community in the City of London

The Hackney cafe, less than one mile away, is in a different world. It stands in a Hackney, and just £374.10 in the parade of shops which include second-hand clothes store, boarded-up buildings plastered with fly posters, and a bailiff's office whose security doors and anonymous name plate are betrayed by a bolder, exasperated notice in the neighbouring which

are not Drakes Bailiffs, They

are next door." Bags of rubbish and old hicycle wheels litter the street. Across the road are the offices of the Family Welfare Association, a charity which offers grants to the desperately poor. Two shops down, the Citizens' Advice Bureau carries in its window a poster from the Child Poverty Action Group setting out a long list of currently available state benefits. The newsagents' no-

They say it's Europe's richest inner

city. Try telling them that in Hackney

ticeboards are full of advertisements asking for "out workers" to do "sewing, clerical, electrical and packing in your own bome". Childminders advertise vacancies. In the large Oxfam shop in the former Dalston Snooker Centre, people form long queues at the till to

huy the old clothes. Not far away, a solicitors' office carries by its door a laminated sheet proclaiming two in case you take the piss." hours' free advice on domestic violence for those on income

support, family credit, disability working allowance or those with an income of less than £80 a week Representation at police stations is also available, it says.

Did the contrast between these two worlds hold any concerns for the brokers and dealers in the champagne bar? "I'm not saying anything," said the youth in the Italian suit, "And I'm not giving my name

It revealed, I thought, a conscience of sorts; however suppressed. Around him others

made anodyne statements about "market forces". "It's the way life is. I'm afraid." said one buyer and sell-

er of other people's efforts. "It's the way life is," said Mrs Darcy, as she finished her chips. "But I don't like it.

"It makes me feel small to think they earn in one week more than I have in all my savings in the bank. It makes you wonder."

Indeed it does.

### Asian decoys racists

AND KATHY MARKS

PLAIN-CLOTHED Asian police officers are to be used outside football grounds as "decoys" to arrest people who racially abuse them.

been ohtained by The Inde paid informants, and greater use of undercover officers.

police concern over the findings of the inquiry into the death of the black teenager Stephen Lawrence. The operation will be seen by some as a pre-emp tive strike against inevitable criticisms in the inquiry.

'sting" operations will be mounted at football grounds and colleges will be targeted.

The use of "undercover operations" will include obtaining evidence against racist police as well as infiltrating far-right organisations. There are also plans to use a computer system linked to surveillance cameras that can identify a vehicle number plate and owner in seconds.

Operation Spectrum has been drawn up by the Metropolitan Police's racial and violent crime task force, headed by Deputy Assistant Commissioner John Grieve.

discs, till receipts and posters. Cash rewards will be offered for information about racist crime.

days are also planned. **Detective Inspector Richard** Walton, the author of the report, said: "This document shows that we can use the same techniques used against terrorists and drug dealers as for race crimes. It also shows that race crimes are a top priority."

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Starting this Saturday in \*THE INDEPENDENT

to trap

By JASON BENNETTO

The controversial strategy

forms part of a new approach by Scotland Yard, outlined in a document called Operation Spectrum, a copy of which has pendent. The tactics will include the use of DNA testing on racist material, such as posters, It comes amid growing

Under the new approach

and pubs. Racist pupils and teachers in schools, universities

It also outlines a range of initiatives to rebuild community relations. This will include promoting anti-racist measures by advertising on beer mats, tax Anti-racist concerts and open

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### THE INDEPENDENT

# The farce of teenagers plucked from a football pitch and forced into battle

in Asmara

SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD Dowit Admas says he was playing football in Gondar High School, northern Ethiopia, when three government soldiers rounded up 60 boys and took them to Bershelk Military Training Camp in Gojam. They told us Eritrea had taken our land, Badme, and we had to take it back."

Dowit - who attracts attention with his inexplicable sense of humour at becoming a prisoner of war - says he was taught how to handle an assault rifle for three months and was then sent to the front line last Friday.

Though he laughs when he recounts how he was "caught asleep" by Eritrea's soldiers in Badme, the facts are tragic. Young, inexperienced and terrified of the heavy shelling, he was sent forward as a foot soldier ahead of Ethiopia's tanks. He carried a Kalashnikov rifie. a few rounds of ammunition, and two hand grenades. Having walked for 14 hours without food or water - and with no shelters to take cover in the exposed valley - he collapsed exhausted, along with other members of the Ethiopian 34 Brigade. Of the first 670 foot soldiers to reach the Eritrean defence trenches that Friday. most were killed or wounded, say the prisoners.

"Most of us were dying, or so tired we were sitting," said fellow prisoner Abebe Yeigelem, 20. "Our leader had disappeared, and we didn't know what to do because we've never fought before." Arriving at night for an assault on Eritrean-held Badme, Abebe vividly describes a massacre of the second section of the brigade: "More than 600 of us were destroyed. I saw dying and wounded and fleeing."

Dowit was "woken up" by Eritrean soldiers who had encircled the decimated brigade and, at the time convinced he would be executed, is now surprised to find himself one of the youngest POWs in a temporary camp just outside Asmara.

Of the 99 POWs held in a large warehouse, 61 prisoners are army rank and file and the others militia and former demobilised soldiers. They are being fed local vegetable and meat dishes provided by a hotel service from the capital, and have blankets donated by the Eritrean government.

All dressed in camouflage, they squat in groups of eight around a communal dish of local food, before filing out for a head count in the courtyard. They come from many parts of Ethiopia, although the majority are from ethnic groups in northern Ethiopia - Amharas and Tigraians.

No access has yet been iven to international humanitarian organisations. A source st the International Committee of the Red Cross said the organisation had not been able to



Tigisti Hagos, 8, and her father recovering in hospital this week after an Ethiopian shell landed on a wedding party in Adi Quala, Eritrea Photographs: Sami Sallinen/AP

ferent ethnic groups are trained

oners, under Ethiopia's ethni-

Tewolde Aklem, 24, is from

cally based regionalisation.

had participated in the release of 70 POWs in September.

Many tell stories of forced recruitment, from homes, schools and farms, over the past three months. Alemayu Shiferu, 17,

Tigray, where the Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi from Arba Minch, south-western led the Tigray People's Liber-Ethiopia, says he joined volunation Front (TPLF) to victory - and to the core of the government. Also forcibly recruited from his farm and taken to Kobo training camp in Tigray, Tewolde was told it was his duty to fight for Badme.

According to individual accounts by this group of POWs, Ethiopian soldiers were mobilised for assault on Friday morning, the day Ethiopia claimed Eritrea started the war by carrying out an aerial bombardment of the northern town

get general access to all POWs tarily because all his friends had this claim. Through intense in Eritrea since last June, but gone to the military camp. Dif- radio and television propaganda, both Ethiopia and Eritrea in different camps, say the prishave adamantly denied starting the war, simultaneously blaming each other for breaking the air-strike moratorium at the disputed border and failing to stick by an internationally brokered peace policy.

Fighting on the Ethiopian-Eritrean border came to an apparent half yesterday, but Eritrean officials strongly denied there was a "de facto ceasefire" in place. A presidential advisor said Ethiopia had been "battered" over the past few days when it attacked Eritrean positions in Badme, Tsoronna and Zel Ambessa, and the lull was tactical. The official, Yemane Gebre Meskal, welcomed United States and United Nations calls for restraint, saying it was a recognition that Ethiopia was responsible for breaking the air-strike moratorium.

To date, no independent confirmation has been made of

#### WHY BOYS ARE BEING PRESS-GANGED INTO WAR

Who are the combatants? Ethiopia and Eritrea are neighbouring countries - in the impoverished Horn of Africa - with long and tangled histories. Both were part of Italian East Africa at the start of the Second World War. In 1952 they were federated, before Eritrea was made a province of Ethiopia in 1962. After a long war, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF)

So when did the new war

won control in 1991, and

Eritrea gained formal

independence in 1993.

start? In May 1998, when Eritrea sent tanks into a disputed slice of territory around the border town of Badme. The fighting fizzled out after six weeks, when both sides accepted a US proposal for a moratorium on air strikes.

Hostilities flared up again on 6 February, when Ethiopia launched attacks on three fronts, including Badme. Eritrea claims to be rolling back early enemy gains, but the overall picture is unclear.

Ostensibly over the "Badme triangle", a barren, strategically worthless area to which both Asmara and

the reconquest of Eritrea in its entirety. That would

What are they fighting

Addis Ababa can lay claim under conflicting colonial-era maps. But Ethiopia's true goal, it is widely suspected, is to regain the access to the Red Sea it lost when Eritrea became independent. The southern port of Assab, close to Eritrea's border with Diibouti, is the most likely target. But Ethiopia is not thought to be contemplating



merely guarantee another protracted, unwinnable war.

150 miles

Where do they get their weapons? From the usual suspects

(sometimes with British intermediaries) especially the former Eastern bloc countries of Russia, Bulgaria and Romania, all desperate for hard currency. Russia is

reported to have supplied both the belligerents with warplanes. Bulgaria is said to to have sold Ethiopia elderly Soviet T-55 tanks. Romania has sold missile and rockets to Eritrea, China is believed to have done to same for Ethiopia. The two may have spent \$400m

between them on arms.

What is being done to stop

Both the US (of whom both Ethiopia and Eritrea are allies) and the Organisation for African Unity have put forward peace plans, but in vain. The main stumbling block is Eritrea's reluctance to withdraw from the positions it seized in Badme eight months ago. But intense national pride, and long military traditions on both sides could make this a tricky squabble to solve.

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### ga/111es Clinton close to victory as Teacher trial heads for early finish

Dowit Admas, 17, at the

Eritrean POW camp

liberations on the fate of President Bili Clinton yesterday, the long-awaited end of the four-week impeachment trial fi-

nally loomed into sight. The leader of the Republican majority, Trent Lott, said that he was aiming, "if at all possible", to set the final vote for 5pm this afternoon - a day earlier than planned, with Friday held in reserve if there were still senators wanting to speak.

With the final chapter well under way, President Clinton feit case". He excoriated Kenappeared to be cruising securely towards victory, and senatorial solidarity was starting to own political agenda and a

INITITION

Tuesday's decision to shut the public out of the final debate defied the confidentiality rule by releasing texts or sections of their speeches to the press. Tom Harkin, the Democratic Senator from Iowa, who has been one of Mr Clinton's staunchest supporters, went one better, and read his whole speech to reporters.

Mr Harkin described the Lewinsky affair as a "counterneth Start as "an out-of-control independent counsel with his a sín from a crime" At least one Republican, Slade

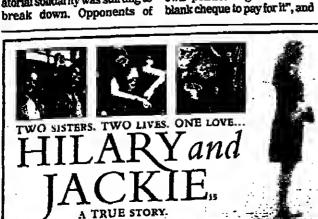
Gorton, said - according to a he would vote "not guilty" on perjury, but would vote to remove the President on obstruction of justice. Such a pattern supported the view that the perjury charge could fail to attract a simple "guilty" majority.

By late yesterday, however, the balance seemed to have shifted, with more senators convinced of the President's perjury than of his intention to obstruct justice, which opened charge would win even a sim-

praised Americans for their ple majority-leaving right-wing good sense in being able to tell Republicans, and especially the House of Representatives prosecutors, routed.

With the final vote as little script released afterwards - that as a day away, even a formal censure of the President seemed to be losing ground. Larry Craig, an Idaho Republican, described it yesterday as a "rose that is beginning to wilt"

and commented that Democratic support for censure stemmed chiefly from their desire to "seek cover" for their acquittal vote. Republicans say impeachment by the House of Representatives is the most damning censure there can be, the prospect that neither so why string out proceedings with artificial condemnations?



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Blair 'begs' THE Over Rover

GERMANY'S LEADING tabloid By IMRE KARACS launched a scathing attack yes- in Bonn terday on Tony Blair, accusin him of "begging" on behalf of Rover's car factories.

The vitriolic editorial in Bild Zeitung illustrates German rage over the plight of the oncemighty BMW company, which has fallen on hard times since it invested in Britain. "The British Rover plants were scrap-heaps when BMW bought them in January 1994," it states. Since then, the Munich-based company had poured in "senseless billions".

But now Mr Blair has asked Chancellor Gerhard Schröder for his help. "Is the Chancellor pposed to hold a whip-round for the Britons?" Bild asks indignantly, not forgetting to mention that "Blair the Beggar" had proudly presented dard-bearer for economic nodernity in Europe.

BMW's tribulations - as they appear from Germany – have touched a raw nerve. The company lost its two most talented

managers. Bernd Pischetsrieder, the chief executive. was sacked, because his British strategy was seen to have failed. His heir apparent, Wolfgang Reitzle, was thwarted by employee representatives on the board, who had been lobbied by British union leaders.

The car-maker now finds it self hunted by predators. Takeover rumours sweeping the markets are quashed by the billionaire Quandt family who own about half the shares. To Germans this all seems very unfair especially when they hear that the British workers who they

years to make more use of the Internet and FM networks. Recent audience research showed that nine out of 10 Berliners lis-



Clean-up crews tackle oil leaking from the cargo ship 'New Carissa', which has been grounded near Coos Bay, Oregon, for a week

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### seethes after shooting

THE DEATH last week of an un- By DAVID USBORNE armed African immigrant in a in New York fusillade of bullets unleashed by four white police officers has lit a bonfire under simmering racial tension in New York and directed the spotlight on the zero-tolerance law-enforcement policies of the city's Republican mayor, Rudolph

Confusion surrounds the circumstances of the incident when the four officers fired 41 shots at Amadou Diallo, an immigrant from Guinea, West Africa, after apparently confronting him last Thursday in the hallway of the Bronx apartment building where be lived last. He died from 19 bullet wounds.

Leaders of the black community, including the veteran activist and political firebrand the Rev Al Sharpton, have demanded a federal investigation of the shooting, saying that it exposes a policy of indiscriminate brutality by the city's police against innocent African Americans.

Emotions are expected to run high at a memorial service to be held in Harlem tomorrow. Mr Diallo, 22, arrived in New York from Guinea two years ago and worked as a street vendor in Manhattan. He spoke almost no English and was carrying only a wallet and a beeper when be was gunned down.

Lawyers for the four officers. who are expected to testify shortly before a grand jury, have said they opened fire be-cause they believed Mr Diallo was armed and may have been reaching for a gun when they challenged him. They were patrolling the area in search of a serial rapist.

The affair has ballooned into a crisis for Mr Giuliani, who cancelled a political visit to memorial service. The Mayor,

who meets the British Opposition Leader, William Hague, here on Saturday, was the object of passionate denouncement at a rally of more than 1.000 people, almost all of them African Americans, outside City Hall on yesterday.

"If they can shoot anyone 41 times, they can shoot everyone 41 times," Mr Sharpton told the angry crowd. "It may start with hlacks and Latinos but it will spread everywhere". He led the throng in chanting "No justice, no peace" as many waved banners accusing Mr Giuliani of condoning police hrutality.

The shooting has become a

symbol of the darker side of the zero-tolerance approach adopted under Mr Giuliani's administration, which has otherwise heen credited with a drop in violent-crime rates. "This just shows how the police will shoot a black man for no reason," said Shahir Mack, one of the many children at the City Hall rally.

The victim's mother Kadiadou Diallo, flew to New York from Guinea and visited the Bronx apartment house where ber son died.

Emerging from a black van, she fell to her knees before throngs of reporters and sym-pathisers wailing "Why? Why? Why?" She then stumbled to the huilding, repeatedly crying out "Amadou, Amadou, Amadou".

She and ber husband, who is due here today, will take the body back to Guinea.

New York's Police Commis sioner, Howard Safir, ordered his department to arrange refresher courses for streetcrime units to instruct them on approaching suspects and de-termining whether or not they Texas today to attend the are armed and represent a genuine security threat.

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#### Teletubby is secret gay, says evangelist

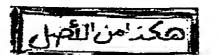
TINKY WINKY, the purple Tele-hibby who carries a red patent handbag in the children's BBC television show, was "outed" vesterday as a homosexual by National Liberty Journal, an American magazine edited hy the Christian right-wing evangelist, the Rev Jerry Falwell.

in an article entitled "Parents Alert: Tinky Winky Comes Out of the Closet", the magazine issued a warning to parents in the United States to shield their children from the corrupting influence of the character, who lives in a dome with the other Teletubbies - Dipsy, La La and Po. With his boy's voice and ditsy

demeanour, Tinky Winky is in fact a covert gay role model, the article said.

Steve Rice, spokesman for The Itsy Bitsy Entertainment Company, which represents Teletubbies in the US, was emphatic "To think we would be putting sexual innuendo in a children's show is kind of out-

But the preacher's journal is convinced of the Tellytubby's orientation: "[Tinky Winky] is purple – the gay pride color, and his antenna is shaped like a triangle - the gay pride symbol."



### Royal intrigue cost Hassan his crown

CROWN PRINCE Hassan knew BY ROBERT FISH that the game of kings had ended the moment his brother landed at Amman's Queen Alia airport last month. There was a formal embrace from the man who had supposedly won his long battle with cancer. But King Hussein ignored Hassan's son, Rashid, and then showed what he thought of his Crown Prince by choosing to travel into the city not with Hassan – as was his normal routine - but alongside his wife, Queen Noor.

Hassan was left behind. The man who had waited 34 years to be the king of Jordan was stunned. For weeks, be had heard the rumours that his days as crown prince were half-jokingly, to visitors about numbered; a Lebanese newspaper suggested that King Hus-sein believed that his younger

brother was plotting a coup. But the king had reassured Hassan only days earlier that be intended to make him regent. Hassan's desperate, melodramatic attempt to prove his good faith is already the talk

He presented himself before the king and - according to impeccable sources - asked Hussein bluntly: "How have I offended you? Here is my gun. If I have been disloyal to you, please shoot me - but do not disgrace me."

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The king ordered Hassan to take his gun back and reassured him yet again.

When a similar account to this story appeared in the small Jordanian newspaper Al-Majed, its editor was accused

of "insulting the monarch". Jordan's authorities are sensitive to the slightest criticism of the royal family, but in the days that have followed the king's death it has been possible to put together an account of Crown Prince Hassan's fall from grace. In fact, the sequel to his as-

shooting tonishing gesture with the gun was, if anything, even more striking. The king called Hassan to the royal palace late on 20 January to present him with his letter of dismissal. A photographer was waiting to snap Hassan handing over his insignia to the new crown prince - and now king - Abdullah. Hassan returned to his car without the time to read the document; driving away, he turned on the radio only to hear the contents of the unopened letter on the national news.

Many Jordanians feel that the manner of his dismissal was unnecessarily cruel.

As Crown Prince, Hassan had been ordered by the king to handle Jordan's development projects - a role that inevitably brought him into conflict with the government of the former prime minister Abdul Karim Kabariti, who is said to dislike Hassan personally. Premiers helieved that Hassan trespassed on their prerogatives something he had no right to do princess was "changing the

since the right of succession is the crown prince's only consti-

tutional power. Even before King Hussein's brave, hopeless insistence of his recovery on 19 January, the royal court had been awash with stories that the monarch was turning against his brother. First, the name of Abdullah would be mooted, then that of

Hassan's concerns only increased when he realised the extent to which his communications were being monitored for years, he had spoken,

Hamzeh, his son by Queen Noor.

Queen Noor: Princess

Sarvath risked her anger

the taps on his telephone. In the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota, King Hussein was told that Hassan had tried to fire the chief of staff of the army, that Hassan's Pakistani-born wife, Princess Sarvath, had gone so far as to change the carpets in the royal palace in anticipation of becoming queen.

The truth appears to he more prosaic.

At a cost of more than £3m, King Hussein had built a house for Field Marshal Abdul-Hafez Mureii-Kaabneh, a very ugly but otherwise magnificent pile on top of a hill outside of Amman.

Rumour had it that Walid bin . Talal, a Saudi millionaire, wanted to purchase the property for £10m but Crown Prince Hassan, after consultations with the king, told the Saudi that the property belonged to the field marshal. Hassan's response which appears to have been in accordance with the king's wishes-nevertheless provoked the story that he wanted to remove the field marshal. And the king was not amused.

Then came the tale of the carpets. Hassan's home is a charming building once owned by the former British ambassador, Sir Alec Kirkbride, but last year the Crown Prince decided that after years of neglect, the house should be refurbished, along with its adjoining offices. Princess Sarvath, so it is said, wanted to change the decoration in both house and the office. And a new story, as unfair as it appears to be untrue, went the rounds - that the royal palace" even before the sick king had died. But Hassan could make dan-

gerous mistakes. Against the advice of his friends, he commiserated before parliament with the suffering of Iraqi civilians under United Nations sanctions. The Iraqi government reacted angrily because it believed that Hassan had not given sufficient support to the regime, while the king re-

Princess Sarvath was also widely believed to want to name her son, Rashid, as crown prince when Hassan became king-an idea that would inevitably anger Queen Noor. Those around the princess advised her to forget the notion but it seems that Hassan, too, continued to toy with the idea of naming his own son crown prince once he gained the

tough enough on the Iragis.

In the first days of his own regency, Abdullah showed con-siderable generosity to his deposed uncle. He greeted him warmly and - when Hassan offered to hand over control of the six academic institutions that he ran - the new king insisted that Hassan should continue to administer the projects.

In a nation in which the monarchy is the one unifying bond, it is as well that the two men appear to get on well. More royal shenanigans, and Jordanians will be wondering what kind of royal family they have inherited.



The overlooked crown prince, Hassan, left, kisses King Abdullah. The new king is said to be treating his uncle well

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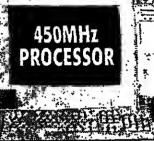
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ALEXANDRE "XANANA" GUS- BY DIARMID O'SULLIVAN mao, the East Timorese guerrilla commander, was released from prison in Jakarta vesterday in the first concrete sign of drastic changes in the Indonesian-occupied territory.

"I have been given the task of uniting the people of East Timor in a determination to bring about a comprehensive, peaceful solution." he told reporters at his new home in central Jakarta. "I feel that with talks with East Timorese from all sides I can create an East Timorese nation.'

The bungalow is designated "branch" of Mr Gusmao's former home, Cipinang Prison, and the government refuses to refer to his change in status as 'house arrest". But, despite being restricted in his movements, and guarded at all times by four prison officers behind a 10-foot fence, he will be free to receive visitors and phone calls and to participate in talks on the former Portuguese colony. Xanana is here not only to sit but also to work, to help solve the problem of East Timor" said the Justice Minister, Muladi, who "welcomed" Mr Gusmao to his new home with a

East Timor was invaded by Indonesia in 1975 and annexed

AND RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

rise as rebel

leader freed

ficially recognised Jakarta's sovereignty. After 23 years of ignoring de-

mands that it remove its forces, Indonesia created confusioo last month when it said it was prepared to give the territory its freedom.

After talks with Portugal and the United Nations in New York this week, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, Ali Alatas, said that East Timor would soon be offered "autonomy" control of many of its internal affairs, but not sovereign independence. If that is rejected, he said, Indonesia will withdraw, raising fears of a repeat of 1975, when the sudden departure of the Portuguese left a power vacuum.

This year has seen violent encounters between proindependence East Timorese and supporters of integration. some of them vigilantes armed and trained by the Indonesian military. Despite the significance of the occasion, Mr Gusmao, whose years in prison have transformed him from a wild-looking guerrilla into a much more dapper and states-

crush of bodies. "Don't make us angry," snapped a furious young policeman, rifle slung over his shoulder. A Portuguese reporter go man-like figure, was far from jupast the guards by shouting "Let me through; I'm pregnant." She was, and they did. Inside. Mr Gusmao sat on a

sofa next to Mr Muladi, encircled by sweating reporters. Many supporters of East Timorese independence are sceptical about Indonesia's sincerity in discussing independence and he chose his words carefully. Asked if Indooesia might let East Timor go free, be said: 'I have always been opti-

all sides do not want to reduce

their enmity or their hostility.

then the problem will become

"In my opinion, the priority

more and more difficult," he

now in solving the problems of

East Timor is to create a peace-

There were chaotic scenes

as the the 52-year old Mr Gus-

mao emerged into the drizzle

from Cipinang Prison, where he

had been since 1992, when he

was arrested in East Timor and

sentenced to 20 years' impris-

onment. A dozen or so Timo-

rese students waved flags in the

rain and sang "Viva Xanana!"

by waiting reporters, who

hopped oo to motorbikes to

chase Mr Gusmao's minibus

and its escort truck of riot po-

lice at high speed through the

After the convoy reached

the house, there was a brawl as

a crowd of Indonesian journal-

ists tried to push past the po-

lice guarding the front door. A

window was smashed in the

streets of Jakarta.

But they were outnumbered

He told The Independent: I'm not thinking about my own freedom. I'm only thinking about the work I have to do." In the background was the sound of another window breaking as yet more reporters





A helicopter breaks up (top) then explodes as it hits a building in Cape Town yesterday, killing the four crew. It had been lowering an air conditioning unit AP

#### Hundreds feared drowned as ship sinks in storm

RESCUE TEAMS in Indonesia By Christopher Torchia searched yesterday for as many as 312 people who were on board a passenger ship that sank in stormy seas between Borneo and Sumatra islands.

Last night, 19 people had been rescued. But hopes of finding more survivors were fading four days after the apparent accident took place.

The newspaper Kompos reported the Harta Rimbo, with 325 passengers and a crew of seven, took on water in bad weather and sank after being swamped by big waves on Sat-urday night off Tambelan Island, about 500 miles north of Jakarta, Indonesia's capital.

Officials on nearby Riau Island said nine people were rescued on Sunday and another 10 were picked up on Tuesday. One body was also found. The rest

The Navy said a search was being conducted yesterday by an Indonesian warship and one aircraft. "We haven't made any progress on the rescue. So far only 20 passengers including crew were found and one was

in Jakarta

dead," said a search and rescue

Kompas quoted the ship's captain, Hermanto, as saying "Around midnight, bad weather and big waves came, then the ship started sinking." Mr Hermanto and several others were rescued by a passing cargo ship. He said the Harta Rimba, a 100-foot long wooden ship, departed from Kuaia Sumbas on the west coast of Borneo early on Saturday morning for

Pekanbaru on Sumatra. The official Antara news gency said the vessel was also carrying a cargo of timber. Mr Hermanto said he distributed 200 life jackets to those on board after the ship started to fill with water. Others were

ordered to cling to blocks of

wood and drums to stay affoat. Indonesia is made up of more than 13,000 islands and re-However, passengers and cargo vessels are often poorly maintained and overloaded. (AP)

#### **US claims China** piling up missiles

THE UNITED States has ac- By TERESA POOLE cused China of planning a massive build-up in the oumber of missiles aimed at Taiwan, a claim which will increase friction between Washington and Peking just two weeks before the Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, is to visit China. The apparent leak of a clas-

sified Pentagon report exposes divisions within Washington over Taiwan's inclusion in its planned Theatre Missile Deence (TMD) system for Asia, with American defence officials and conservatives keen to bolster their case for inclusion despite caution from diplomats on a likely backlash from China.

Peking has already warned of "a setback unprecedented since the normalisation of bilateral ties", should Taiwan be made part of the TMD system, which is backed by Japan and

AND ANDREW MARSHALL

would also cover South Korea. The classified report said the Chinese military has more than 150 M-9 and M-11 missiles aimed at Taiwan, according to the Financial Times. Crucially, the report quoted "military analysts" in Washington as saying the report forecast this would increase to 650 missiles in the "next several years".

However, with relations between Peking and Taipei at their best for years, it is the Sino-US "strategic partnership" which looks set for a bitter argument over missile deployments. Mrs Albright is due in Peking in March to lay. the ground for the visit by Zhu Sino-US ties are already shaky.



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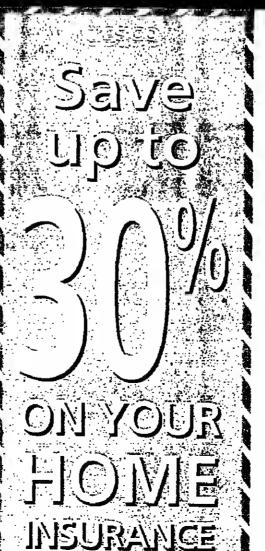
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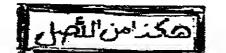
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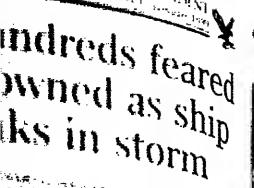
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### Christian Taliban' take up arms III III IIIISSILOS CHRISTIANS IN Pakistan are BY JASON BURKE in Faisalabad

movements in a bid to counter increasing sectarian attacks and discrimination. Communi-ty leaders fear this may lead to a civil war with Muslims.

Several Pakistani Christians claim to have infiltrated hardline Islamic movements and to have spent months in training camps in Pakistan and Afghanistan learning guerrilla tactics. thers have joined the "Chrisdan Taliban" or called for the formation of armed defence organisations modelled on extremist Muslim groups.

Chrisbans suffer severe discrimination in Pakistan. They are effectively barred from many jobs, frequently harassed by the police and, in cities, con- he said. "We have to stress the

fined to ghettos. Pakistan's blasphemy laws, which impose death sentences for slandering Islam, result in frequent false accusations against them, many of which are upheld by the courts. Physical attacks are common, too. Earlier this year, a bomb was planted in a cathedral in the southern port city of Karachi.

Father Bonnie Mendes, a senior community leader, said Catholic church elders were deeply worried by the trend towards violence, "Young people are being forced into the hands of extremists who believe guns and bombs are the only way,"

way of peace, justice and love. The [government] has to face up to realities and make changes, as we're heading for a very dangerous situation."

For some, however, the time for direct action has already come. One Christian from Faisalabad claimed recently to have been one of 35 Christians from all over Pakistan who had pretended to be Muslims so as to be trained by two extremist Islamic organisations. Calling himself "Simon Mu-

jahid" (freedom fighter) - mirroring the aliases taken by Muslim extremists who believe they are fighting a boly war the man, in his 30s, said he had taken up arms because Christians in Pakistan needed to be able to defend themselves.

/AUXHALL

from Faisalabad and we spent several months training in the camps. Since coming back we have bought weapons so we are

ready for any attack," he said. Mujahid said that he decided that violence was necessary when the Catholic bishop a harsh moral code. John Joseph committed suicide in Faisalabad last year to publicise the case of a Christian sentenced to death for slandering Islam by supporting the British author Salman Rushdie.

called for volunteers for a new

organisation called the Sipah-

e-Masiyah (Defenders of the

Messiah). Two of the most

feared Islamic organisations

are the Sunni Muslim Sipah-e-

Sihaba and the Sipah-e-Mo-

hammed, which claim to fight

A local reporter said he had visited Mujahid in the Christian ghetto in Faisalabad and had been shown a cache of automatic weapons and hand-guns.

There are other signs of the growing militancy among the for the rights of Shia Muslims. Christians. In Peshawar, the Sources among church elders

"Two other men came with me north-western city on the bor- in Lahore said last week that der with Afghanistan, religious the Sipah-e-Masiyah were leaders have formed a "Chris-"ready and waiting". Hardline Islamic groups tian Taliban". The movement's

aims are unclear but appear to have been linked to dozens of be a mixture of self-defence murders and bomb blasts. and, in a clear copy of the orig-Thousands of people have died inal Taliban, the enforcement of in sectarian violence in Pakistan over the past five years. Even leaders of the com-Last month, Sunni gunmen killed 17 worshippers at a Shia munity have been hinting at the use of force. Last year, Alexanmosque, sparking a spate of titder Malik, the Bishop of Lahore, for-tat murders.

The government has instituted special anti-terrorism courts but neither these, nor a series of extra-indicial killings by police, appear to have had any effect. Critics say the government's bid to make Islamic law supreme has heightened religious feelings and

CONTACT VAUXHALL ON 0345 400 800

#### Pen tribe in fight to write

STREET LIFE ISLAMABAD

"THIS LETTER? No, I cannot so the press became almost

proper," said the clerk at the federal ministry for works in Islamabad. "What is improper about

it?" I asked him. "You say, 'Dear sir', and then you go straight to what you want. It is not how you write a letter to a senior offi-

cer. I will tell you how to write," he said. He started dictating to me: "With due respect and humble submission, I beg to state that ... " I had to write what he wanted because I knew he would never send the letter to his officer if I did not follow his advice. It is precisely this

culture that is being resisted

by Pakistan's journalists. "We want freedom. Free the press." I looked out at the crowd as they marched towards parliament square. There were several bundred journalists – almost twothirds of the city's "pen tribe", as they are called in the national language, Urdu.

In a country where people still insist official letters conclude with "your most obedient servant", press freedom seems a little out of place. But iournalists are a tough lot. They never give up.

The struggle for press freedom in Pakistan started soon after its independence in 1947. Generations bave come and gone. It seems like only yesterday that we used to march down Islamabad's streets chanting slogans against General Zia ul Haq and his junta. A growing resentment against his rule forced him to give limited freedom to the press in 1985.

Slowly but steadily, journalists gained more freedom. Weak governments and differences within the country's ruling elite made the task easier. The rulers needed a free

send it to my officer. It is im- as free as it could be in a developing country. The rulers tried to muzzle it but could not. They did not have enough votes in the parliament to revive the censorship laws.

But this all changed when Muhammad Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz party won a twothirds majority in the 1997 elections. Although more than 65 per cent of people did not vote, Prime Minister Sharif presented this victory as "a heavy mandate" and set about accumulating as much power as possible. Members of parliament were deprived of the right to vote against the desires of their party leader. The powers of the president were curtailed.

A tax dispute with the largest newspaper group, Jang, was used to fuel a campaign against the press. The proprietors were asked to sack the journalists the government did not like. Police started following senior journalists. Journalists who protested were beaten.

But this did not discourage the journalists. They shielded individual colleagues to prevent arrests or beatings. They travelled together, ate together, slept in the same houses. Hundreds gathered outside the Jang office every night to brave the police batons trying to prevent the delivery of newsprint.

Their newspaper was reduced from 20 to four pages. But they did not give up. Their struggle is not about taxes. nor pay. It is for a free press. So the struggle continues.

With grey hair and long careers in journalism we are joining a younger generation in protesting "Down with dictators. Long live democracy." ANWAR IQBAL

Amoar Iqbal is assistant edipress to attack one another, tor of The News' in Islamobad



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### BUSINESS

#### BRIEFING

Property squeeze set to continue THE SQUEEZE on the property market is set to cootinue in 1999 with just one in ten people looking to move home during the year according to a survey by the Alliance & Leicester. The survey of 4,500 adults also shows that the number of homeowners wanting to move in the South-east fell from 11 per cent to just 7 per cent. The mortgage bank said the decline in the South-east was due to faltering confidence in the region, where 16 per cent felt less

#### 650 jobs to be cut at BP

confident about the market than last year.



BP, the petro-chemical giant, yesterday announced 650 job losses, while a further 1,200 jobs came under threat at Kvearner's Govan shipyard in Scotland. BP said 400 jobs would be phased out" over the next two years at its Grangemouth complex in Stirlingshire, which employs 2,500, and 250 more would go at its Saltend plant in Hull,

which has 1,230. Separately, the Scottish Office industry minister Lord Macdonald (pictured) yesterday called for talks with the management at Govan after a crisis meeting with unions. The call came after the yard failed to secure a £30m contract to build a British Antarctic Survey vessel.

#### Independent appoints Merrill

INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS, the international media group which publishes The Independent in the UK. yesterday appointed Merrill Lynch as its corporate brokers worldwide. The group chief executive, Liam Healy, said that, given the global nature of the group's business, the appointment of a leading international investment bank with strong institutional links would help Independent Newspapers take its story to a wider audience, Independent Newspapers has also appointed the Irish brokers Goodbody alongside the group's existing brokers J&E Davy.

#### STOCK MARKETS

FTSE 100	DOW JONES	ONES MIKKEI	
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5900	9300	13900	
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lodus	Close	Change C	-mg-0(%)	52 ork Mgk !	52 wk low Y	eld(%)
FTSE 100	5770.20	-9.70	-0.17	6195.60	4599.20	2.72
FISE 250	5157.60	-19.90	-0.38	5970.90	4247.60	3.22
FTSE 350	2753.50	-5.60	-0.20	2969.10	2210,40	2.80
FTSE Atl Share	2665.16	-5.49	-0.21	2886.52	2143.53	2.84
FTSE SmallCap	2216,30	-5.70	-0.26	2793.80	1834,40	3.63
FTSE Fledgling	1213,00	-5.10	-0.42	1517,10	1046_20	4,45
FTSE AM	824.40	-9.20	-1,10	1146.90	761,30	1.22
FTSE Eurotop 100	2663,70	-20.82	-0.78	3079.27	2018,15	2.21
FTSE Eurotop 300	1164.86	-8.16	-0.70	1332.07	880.63	2.04
Dow lones	9141.7B	6.44	0.07	9647,96	7400.30	1,68
Nikkel	13952,40	49.74	0.38	17352.35	12787.90	1.04
Hang Seng	9076.33	-168,16	-1.82	11926,16	6544.79	3.87
Dax	4796.82	-107,53	-2.19	6217,83	3833.71	1.78
5&P 500	1219.11	2.92	0.24	1283.64	923.32	1,30
Nasdag	2308.61	-1.40	-0.06	2533.44	1357.09	0.30
Toronto 300	6420.10	-23.47	-0.36	7837.70	5320.90	1.65
Brazil Bovespa	8666.56	4.79	-0.06	12339.14	4575.69	7.10
Belgium Bel20	3328.73	-56.46	-1.67	3713.21	2613,32	2.13
Amsrerdam Exch	512,49	-5.57	-1.08	600.65	366.58	1.92
France CAC 40	4001.93	-36.56	-0.91	4404,94	2881.21	2,02
Milan MIB30	32879.00	543.00	1.68	39170.00	24175,00	1.24
Madrid Ibex 35	9656.70	156.70	1,65	10989.80	6869,90	1.93
hish Overall	5149.38	-19.17	-0.37	5581.70	3732.57	1.52
5 Korea Comp	524.49	1.11	0.21	651.95	277,37	0.07
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in'	TEREST RA	TES
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5 34	1.26	5.30
. 30	427	5.26

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MONEY MARK	ET RATES	BOND YIELDS
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MONET MAKKET KALES						ROM	) TIELU	•
Index	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	AL COR	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr che
UK	5 51	-1 99	5.29	-2 15	4.28	-1.73	4.27	-1.74
US	5.00	-0 63	5.16	-0 54	4 91	0 72	5.33	0.59
Lepan	0.45	-0.39	0 46	-0.36	2 11	0 13	3.19	0.59
Germany	3.11	.041	3 04	-0 75	3.79	-1.29	4.71	-0.94
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	287.25							
Ner (5)	5.53	-0 01	7 14	Base	Rates	5.50	7.25	

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T	URIST	RATES			
stralia (S)	2.4468	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14.91		
stria (schillings)	19.28	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0895		
igium (francs)	56 68	New Zealand (5)	2.8318		
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Austria (schillings)	19.28	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0895
Belgium (francs)	56 68	New Zealand (5)	2.8318
Canada (5)	2 3775	Norway (kroner)	12.18
Cyprus (pounds)	<u>0.8117</u>	Portugal (escudos)	279.92
Denmark (kroner)	10.49	Saudi Arabia (rials)	5.9457
Finland (markka)	8.3658	Singapore (\$)	2.6268
France (francs)	9 2 1 0 6	South Africa (rands)	9.5693
Germany (marks)	2.7559	Spain (pesetas)	233.28
Greece (drachma)	452.54	Sweden (kronor)	12.58
Hong Kong (S)	12 26	Sweezerland (francs)	2.2552
ireland (punts)	1.1033	Thailand (bahts)	54.44
Inglan (rupees)	62.25	Turkey (lirasi)	534155
Israel (shekels)	6.1492	USA (SI	1.5940
Italy (Irra)	2729		
Japan (yen)	184.36	when he well during purpo	Sec 201
Malaysia (ringgits)	5.9460		
Allen (Met)	0.6090	Thomas Cook	

### Way left clear for TRW to take Lucas Varity.

LUCAS VARITY, the car-parts BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA and aerospace group, last night looked set to fall to a £4bn takeover by the US engineer TRW after its rival Federal-Mogul surprised the City and pulled out of the race for the UK

Federal-Mogul, one of the world's largest car-parts makers. indicated it would not increase its informal £3.6bn cash and

paper offer for the UK group. In a short statement, the Debroit-based company said that it had "withdrawn its interest in acquiring Lucas Varity". It added that, after poring over Lucas' books for a week, Federal-Mogul decided that a takeover "would

said that Federal-Mogul did not TRW's all-cash agreed bid.

They said that the company's overstreiched balance sheet had probably deterred the company's Wall Street backers from bankrolling the counterbid.

Dick Snell, the group's ambinot clear its financial burdles". tious chief executive, embarked The company declined to on an acquisition spree last year

sales from \$1bn to \$7bn. Howhave the firepower to match ever, the string of purchases, inchiding the £1.5bn takeover of the UK brake-pads group T&N, left the company with a debt moun-

> raise additional cash. One analyst praised Mr Snell's decision: "If you can't make it, it's better to pull out." He added that an expensive bid

tain which made it difficult to

jeopardised Mr Snell's "big. hairy audacious goal" of \$10bn sales by 2002.

The withdrawal of Federal-Mogul clears the way for a TRW takeover of Lucas to create a world leader in the production of brakes, steering systems and defence components, with sales of around \$19bn. The deal would see the disappearance of both

comment further but analysts that increased Federal-Mogul's ding war with TRW could have Lucas' London listing and its transfer to the US, three months after a plan by its chief executive Victor Rice to move to the States as an independent company

was defeated by shareholders. Analysts said it was unlikely another counterbidder would emerge and predicted that Lucas shareholders would accept the 288p a share offered by

#### Bank slashes forecast for growth ernor of the Bank of England. THE BANK of England has cut BY DIANE COYLE its forecast for growth this year Economics Editor

and warned there is a one in four chance of recession in the first half of 1999.

Its Inflation Report yesterday heightened expectations of further cuts in interest rates. Many City economists predict the cost of loans will fall to 5 per cent within a month or two.

Mervyn King, Deputy Gov-ernor, said the Monetary Policy Committee did not have a plan now to reduce rates in future. "We will take it month by month," he said.

But the report made it clear that some MPC members thought inflation would be lower than the forecast published yesterday. It emphasised the dangers posed by weaker prospects for the world economy and the fact that earnings growth had turned out far lower than the committee had expected.

"We are not in a pause," Mr King added, asked whether interest rates were now on hold.

38p at 596p, even though the television group issued a trad-The Bank's forecast of annual growth between 0.5 and 1 ONdigital which launched in per cent this year if interest November, has yet to release rates remain at their current level of 5.5 per cent, appeared er, it is believed to have signed to be at odds with the Chancellor's prediction, in Novemup about 60,000 users by the end ber's Pre-Budget Report, of 1 Yesterday BSkyB also unto 1.5 per cent growth. veiled a joint marketing agree-ment with America Online, the

The Bank predicted inflation was likely to stay around the 2.5 per cent target for the next two years. The Deputy Governor said: "For the first time in a generation, people expect low inflation.

The Treasury said the Inflation Report was "broadly in line" with the Government's view that inflation would stay low and growth would pick up during the course of the year.

The Prime Minister's official spokesman said: "I am not

aware of any plans for Gordon Brown [the Chancellor] to further revise his Budget But many outside forecast-

ers expect the Treasury to revise down its expectation for ries. growth in the light of news on the economy since November Steven Bell, chief UK economist at Deutsche Bank, said:

"People will laugh if the Trea-sury publishes an unchanged growth forecast in the Budget." Mr King said yesterday that it was clear the Bank was prepared to move rates as necessary to keep inflation at around 2.5 per cent. "Inflation can be

too low as well as too high," he The report said prospects for the world economy had worsened, as highlighted by the crisis in Brazil. "This will require a policy response in the indus-trialised world," Mr King said,

echoing comments made sep-arately by Eddie George, Gov-

The Inflation Report also emphasised the danger that a sharp fall in share prices could hit growth. So too could stock reductions by business as the economy slows, following signs that weak demand has led to an

unwanted build-up in invento-

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However, Mr King said the risk of the year-on-year growth rate turing negative remained only one in four. After two flat quarters. GDP growth would revive in the second half of 1999.

Mr Bell predicted unemployment would rise this spring but added that this would still be the mildest economic downturn for a generation, with inflation staying low. "It is a fantastic outcome," he said.

Some City experts are more optimistic about growth, seeing a marked pick-up later in the year. Neil Parker of the Royal Bank of Scotland said: "There will be another one or two interest rate cuts soon, but we will get the corrective medicine in the first part of next year."

### INFLATION FORECAST projection assumes interest rates at 5.5% % increase in prices on a year earlier 1994 1995 1996 1997

### modem sales will hit profits

Mark Booth, BSkyB chief executive, outlines new targets yesterday Peter Macdiarmid

BSkyB shares jump 15% as

Sky Digital proves a success

cent of digital subscribers had

opted for the "family basic"

choosing a cheaper package

was now aiming for 1m digital

subscribers by October "It

should speak volumes about

our confidence in the position of

BSkyB shares closed up

60.5p at 474.5p, reversing a slide

renewed fears that its rival

tween Carlton and Granada,

the ITV groups, was struggling. Cariton shares closed down

Mark Booth, BSkyB's chief

containing less channels.

the company," he said.

over the past few weeks.

SHARES IN British Sky Broad- BY PETER THAL LARSEN

cent yesterday as the satellite alysts with the news that 98 per

The subscriber figures and executive, said the company

signed up 350.000 subscribers. Of ONdigital, the joint venture be-

casting jumped by almost 15 per

broadcaster unveiled strong ini-

tial demand for its new digital

satellite service and set a re-

vised target of signing 1m digi-

tal subscribers within a year of

enthusiasm about the prospects

for Open, BSkyB's interactive

television joint venture, over-

shadowed a more than 50 per

cent drop in the group's pre-tax profits for the six months to

In the four months since it

was launched at the beginning

of October, SkyDigital, the broad-

caster's 140-channel service,

these 120,000 were entirely new

BSkyB further impressed an-

customers to BSkyB.

its launch.

December.

PSION, the handheld computer BY PETER THAL LARSEN maker, yesterday issued a blow to shareholders when it warned that Dacom, its data-communications division, had suffered a sudden downturn that was likely to hit profits this year.

The warning wiped 12 per cent off Psion's shares, puncturing the euphoria surrounding Symbian, its software joint venture with Nokia, Ericsson and Motorola, that has propelled its shares to new highs in recent

Psion said manufacturers of portable notebook computers had started installing "embedded" modems - communicathe computer's circuitry - ear-

lier than expected. The move would "severely affect" sales of Dacom's plug-in card moderns, which have enjoyed strong growth in demand

in recent years. Psion shares closed at 832.5p, down 115p. "We saw it coming, but it hap-pened faster than we predicted." a Psion spokesman said. In the six months to last June, Psion sold over 300,000 card moderns, more than double the amount it sold in the same period of 1997.

set the predicted fall in demand tions devices that are built into for card moderns, but that these would not contribute to profits until the second half of the year

ing undate.

of January.

Internet group, and demon-

strated Open for the first time.

between BSkyB, British Tele-

com, Matsushita and Midland

Bank, is set to launch an inter-

form this spring. Yesterday,

Open announced that Dixons

and Argos, the retail groups.

would make their products

available on Open.

Open, which is a joint venture

package of channels, rather than any subscriber figures. Howev-

Investors' enthusiasm for active shopping and banking SkyDigital also translated into service on BSkyB's digital plat-

Dacom is concentrating on producing PC cards which are capable of connecting portable computers to mobile phone oetworks or of delivering data over high-speed telephone lines.

City analysts slashed their 1999 profit forecasts for the company from £12m to £10m. They added that the warning did not affect the company's 1998 results, due to be released in old in the same period of 1997. March, which are likely to show partment of Trade and Indus-The company said it had been pre-tax profits of about £11.4m. try to refer its possible hid to the

#### Psion warns that downturn in Fourth potential bidder for Portsmouth emerges

NEWS COMMUNICATIONS and Monopolies and Mergers Media yesterday became the Commission. fourth company to emerge as a possible hidder for Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers, the regional newspapers and convenience stores group, writes Peter Thai Larsen.

Newscom, which publishes the Southern Daily Echo and changed its name from Soothern Newspapers last year, said it had been in talks with Portsmouth & Sunderland for the past few weeks and was interested in making a bid for the company. It has asked the De-

"We have had very friendly relations with them for some time and we're just next door," said Colin Rowley, Newscom's finance director. A combination would make sense because there is a strong geographical fit between their operations.

Newscom joins its rival publishers Johnston Press and Newsquest in declaring an interest in Portsmouth. Charles Villiers, the former head of Scottish Radio's newspaper division. is also keen to mount a bid.

However, other groups

Portsmouth have yet to make their interest public. "We've had a lot of interest from the publishing and retailing side." a spokesman said.

Under UK media ownership between the two companies rules, a change of ownership among newspaper publishers is automatically referred to the MMC. The watchdog is already investigating Johnston and Newsquest's offers, and is likely to consider a possible takeover by Newscom at the same time. We just wanted to make sure that we were on the same timetable as the others," Mr

#### AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS



A VOLATILE session left Footsie just 9.7 points lower at 5,770.2. At one time it was down 82.2. Supporting shares also lost ground. An already oervous market was weighed down by anxiety over New York, where weakness in Internet stocks filtered through to shares which had surfed oo the Internet buying spree.

The Ondigital twosome Cariton Communication, 38p to 596p, and Granada, 8.5p to 1,126.5p, were ruffled by BSkyB's much betterthan-expected growth in its digital

Derek Pain, page 23

#### NEW YORK

US STOCKS were mixed, with gains in hi-tech shares offset by a decline in Philip Morris, the tobacco giant which lost a key legal case yesterday.

In afternoon trade, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was trading up 8.44 points, or 0.07 per ceot, at 9139.47. Philip Morris fell, dragging other tobacco stocks with it, after a court unexpectedly awarded damages to a Californian smoker. Hi-tech stocks fared better with Microsoft rising after it expressed interest in acquiring Internet companies.

#### TOKYO

JAPANESE STOCKS edged higher in cautious trade in Tokyo, with the Nikkei index closing up 49.74 points at 13,952.40. Nikkei March tutures finished 100 points higher at

Traders were encouraged by the recent weakening of the yen against the dollar, and global manufacturers such as Sony were among the major share gamers.

The yen slipped further against the dollar in Loodoo trade after newspaper reports suggested that Washingtoo was leaning on Tokyo to loosen mooetary policy.

#### SAO PAULO

BRAZILIAN shares were trading modestly lower yesterday afternoon, with markets unmoved by federal government plans to help a rebel state with debt repayments.

The beochmark Bovespa was down 21.3 points at 8651.7 after the Brazilian government confirmed that it would step in to prevent the Minas Gerais state from defaulting on \$108 million of Eurobond payments.

Minas Gerais' default last month on federal debt triggered the devaluation of the real.

#### FRANKFURT

SHARES FELL for the third successive day, amid deepening gloom about the German economy. The electronic Xetra Dax closed down 36.63 points, or 0.76 per cent, at 4,814.04 points. The floor Dax fell 2.2 per cent to 4,796.82

Federal trade statistics revealed that German exports were 2.7 per cent lower in December 1998 than December 1997, prompting renewed calls for further European interest rate cuts. Traders said the bottom of the stock market looked near, and predicted that the Dax would touch 5,000 in the coming days.

### Bank may be getting it right after all

MERVYN KING, the Bank of England's Deputy Governor, gave his usual virtuoso performance at the quarterly Inflation Report briefing. Any reasonable person looking at the evidence, he argued, should not have been surprised by the Monetary Policy Committee's interest rate decisions. And indeed, Mr King made it seem very logical - with world growth even weaker and inflation incredibly subdued, why was anybody caught on the hop by last week's half-point cut?

Asked whether the steep drop in interest rates since October was not evidence that the Bank had earlier made a mistake in raising them too high and leaving them at that level for too long, Mr King pointed to the run of bad news about growth and good news about inflation since then. Perhaps other people felt they had been more far-sighted, he said. but the MPC had reacted to actual

It was a fair enough gibe. It is easy for pundits and pointy heads to have strong views about what the MPC ought to he doing, but many have made far bigger mistakes about what was happening in the economy. Their errors, unlike any the committee might



#### OUTLOOK

make, can be quietly buried in the archives. What Mr King glossed over, however, was the fact that the MPC clearly has changed its mind quite radically about the degree of inflationary pressure in the economy. In particular, the wage inflation it thought was in the pipeline does not exist. The Bank's inflation forecast, for any given interest rate or

growth rate, is lower than it was. Whether or not this counts as a mistake, the financial markets were only too pleased to react to the forecast by pencilling in still lower interest rates. This is because many analysis in the City in their hearts believe the Bank is following a growth target rather than an infla-

Bank's growth forecast, showing the economy pulling back from the brink of recession in the next few months if interest rates are unchanged to the conclusion that rates therefore ought to be cut.

This would close some of the gap between the Bank's gloomier economic outlook and the relatively optimistic forecast that is the legacy of the Treasury's Pre-Budget Report. If rates fall to 5 per cent or lower, growth will be a bit better, though perhaps not as high as Gordon Brown hoped in November The Chancellor, like the City, is depending on the MPC to cut interest rates

Yesterday's Inflation Report, stressing the downside risks to growth and inflation, certainly encouraged its readers to hope so. And, as Mr King said, the Bank has shown it will do what is needed to keep inflation from falling too low as well as climbing too high.

Whether interest rates drop to 5 per cent, or 4.5 per cent, or stay unchanged, it is important to keep the broader economic picture in mind. Inflation is low and is expected to stay low while the economic downturn is

tion target - or if not, that it ought sure to be the mikest since the 1960s. to be. They work backwards from the No doubt it could have been even bet ter but whatever the MPC's tactical mistakes, it is hard to fault the strategic results.

#### **Pension victory?**

THE "VICTORY" that the National Grid Two won in the Court of Appeal yesterday may prove a pyhrtic one, not just for pensioners of the elec-tricity industry but for employees right across the land. Dave Laws and Reg Mayes have fought an heroic battle against the Grid for the last six years in an attempt to prove that it misused the surplus in its pension fund when it spent £46m of the money to finance redundancy pay-

ments at the time of privatisation. Since this was a test case, up to 300,000 pensioners of the electricity industry who are members of the same fund and suffered similar losses stood to benefit to the tune of £1.5bn

There is a point of principle here. The Grid has argued consistently that since employers are required to make up the deficit in final salary pension schemes, they should also be entitled to any surplus that aris-

es. This, however, ignores the principle that pensions are a form of deferred pay, not a pot of gold to be raided by employers. The Grid also argued that its treatment of the pension surplus was equitable since it shared out the surplus between the company and the members in the same ratio as each had contributed -two to one. This ignores the fact that the bulk of the surplus was accu-

try was in public ownership. While the legal battle has raged and the lawyers' meter has been running, some of those pensioners who might otherwise have been enjoying enhanced benefits have died. By the time the Grid has appealed to the House of Lords against the Court of Appeal ruling, another two years will have expired, along with yet more

mulated while the electricity indus-

In simple headline terms, the three judges yesterday upheld the appeal of Mr Laws and Mr Mayes against an earlier High Court ruling that the Grid had been within its rights. But the idea that the ruling will open the floodgates is almost certainly fanciful. For the Appeal Court also ruled that surpluses in pension funds do not belong to their members and that it would be "grotesque" for

the Grid to now make additional payments into a fund that continues to be in substantial surplus.

Moreover, the Appeal Court accepted the argument that employers are entitled to take account of their own interests when deciding what to do with pension surpluses. In effect, the Grid was found guilty of a technical breach of pension fund rules by having failed to make the appropriate amendment to its scheme before it took its share of the surplus.

The Grid has now been advised that the maximum it will have to pay into the fund is £10m. National Power, which took £250m from the surplus and fought a parallel case against its pensioners, reckuns it may not have to make any payments into the fund at all.

Even if higher payments do have to be made, that may not mean increased benefits for members. The employers may simply use those payments as credits against future contributions.

So a great battle over principle may in the end yield very little for the pensioners in practice. And yet the publicity generated by this cause celebre may persuade more and more companies to abandon final salary schemes, which are expensive

to fixed, and move to money purchase schemes, which are cheaper, and less attractive to employees. In that case Mr Laws and Mr Mayes will have won a victory but at the expense of millions more losers.

#### Vaux scandal

NO APOLOGY is offered for returning for the second successive day to extraordinary goings on at Vaux Group, the Sunderland based brewer. From a City perspective, the

whole thing stinks. Sir Paul Nicolson, chairman of Vaux, is an honourable man, and be no doubt believes he is doing the right thing by his company, his employees and the local Sunderland community. He no doubt also believes all correct corporate governance procedures have been followed in preparing to sell the group's two breweries and some of its pubs to his brother. But when the non executives who decide these things are led by the chairman's brother in law. Stephen Gibbs. and the independence of much of the rest of the board is of questionable status, you have to wonder how much the letter of corporate governance law really matters.

#### £11bn electricity merger talks called off | MEPs reject plea to exempt eurobonds from new tax TAKEOVER FEVER returned

to the electricity sector yesterday after National Power and United Utilities, the owner of Norweb and North West Water, disclosed that they had called off talks on an £11bn

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marger at the eleventh hour. The talks, which centred on an all-share, no-premium merger, were terminated on Monday night after the two companies Dereed a deal would not be in Shareholders' interests.

There was speculation last night that the two companies would now turn their sights on other merger partners. But rumours also swirled that Naional Power may be contemplating a hostile bid for United

BY MICHAEL HARRISON **Business Editor** 

Keith Henry, chief executive of National Power, is understood to have approached his opposite number at United Utilides, Derek Green, with a merger proposal just before Christmas. Subsequent talks reached an advanced stage.

National Power, which is valued at £6.3hn, would have been the dominant partner in the merged company with 60 per cent of the shares. At last night's closing price of 812p, up 9p, United Utilities is valued at £4.7bm.

There is said to have been no dispute over management roles in the combined company, But it appears that United Utilities

felt that a no-oremium merger would have short-changed its shareholders.

United Utilities said that, as part of a broad review of strategy, it had held discussions with National Power about the potential benefits of a merger. These had reached a "detailed stage" before Monday night's termination of talks.

By contrast, National Power's statement referred merely to "conversations" that had been held held with United about a possible merger. City observers said the tone of

the two statements suggested that United was the keener of the from National Power

The rival generator, Power-Gen, has already merged with East Midlands Electricity and has made no secret of its interest in buying a second regional electricity company if

National Power meanwhile has taken over the supply arm of Midlands Electricity. Both generators are in the

process of selling off coal-fired power stations in return for being allowed to expand into electricity distribution and supply. National Power expects to raise £2bn from the sale of its Drax station in Yorkshire while PowerGen expects to net £1.5bn two to flush out a bidder, even from the sale of its Ferrybridge though the initial approach came and Fiddler's Ferry stations. Outlook, this page



Keith Henry: Thought to have made first approach

### Swiss preparations for any new

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday BY STEPHEN CASTLE suffered a fresh blow over the controversial European withholding tax, when a bid to exempt eurobonds from the proposed legislation was rejected by MEPs.

A Labour move for the exmajority in Strasbourg yesterday, as British politicians repeated warnings that the tax could cost up to 110,000 City jobs.

Although the vote in the European Parliament was only consultative, it underlined the UK's isolation on the issue. The only other EU country holding out against the withholding tax. expected to be set at 20 per cent

in Brussels

on all savings, is Luxembourg. After the vote Alan Donnelly, leader of the Labour MEPs, released a letter to the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, arguing that emption was beaten by a large the draft directive is "flawed and against the interests of employment in Europe's financial services industry". He added: "Unilateral EU-

level action, as required by the withholding tax directive, runs the genuine risk of creating an outflow of capital to third countries such as Switzerland." He warned that there were

withholding tax. Bryan Cassidy, Conservative economics spokesman at Stras-

opportunities arising from the

bourg, said the proposals "could lead to thousands of job losses in the City if the eurobond market is forced to close due to misguided Euro-rules".

A motion approving the European Commission's proposals went through by 386 votes to 106, despite the opposition of most Labour MEPs. Germany has already high-

lighted the importance it attaches to the measure, which, it argues, will help eliminate unalready clear indications of fair tax competition.

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### decoys A bit of a slowdown, racists then back to normal? It won't be that easy

THE LATEST Inflation Report from the Bank of England raises the question whether we need a separate report about in-flation, or whether it should be reincorporated into the Bank's main Quarterly Bulletin. Instead, maybe there should he a new Recession Report.

More about the recession threat in a moment. First, have a look at the top graph, showing producer price inflation through the 1990s in the UK, the G7 minus the UK, and the euro area. Back in the early 1990s Britain had a significant inflation problem. In absolute terms inflation was not at all high by comparison with the levels of the 1970s or early 1980s, but it

was high hy comparison with the other large developed countries. Since then, and most dramatically in the last year, inflation has plunged. But it has not only plunged. It has harmonised. The price at which companies can sell their goods is sharply negative everywhere. Inflation on the convention-

al measure of the retail price index does continue in the UK: the middle part of the Bank projections put it spot on 2.5 per cent, But that is partly the result of the way we calculate our RPI. If we were to use the standard method of calculation of the EU it would be half that, and even that method does not allow for quality increases, or the fact that people change their habits, shopping around for discounted deals.

Where there is inflation is in sset prices; house prices still em to be climbing, particularly in Loudon and the South-east, and share and (particularly) bond prices are higher than they were a year ago. Asset price inflation does not enter into the normal considerations of central bankers: they worry about it, to be sure, but it is not in their official target ranges.

THIS LEADS to a really big question which will, I suggest, preoccupy people in the next decade. Why is there asset price inflation in a world where there is no inflation, or virtually none, in goods and services?

Monetarists would say that it is because too much money is being printed. You do not need to believe that there is a direct mechanistic relationship between the supply of money and the supply of goods and services to accept that there ought to be some sort of relationship between the two. Through the 1980s, real money supply (the broad M4 measure) was consistently higher than the growth of GDP as the lower graph shows. So except in the early 1980s and early 1990s squeezes. monetary policy accommodated some rise in prices.

But now there is little or no rise in prices and money supply is still growing faster than the economy as a whole. Talk to anyone involved in financial markets and the word that keeps cropping up is "liquidity" there is a lot of money chasing a limited supply of securities. So share prices have stayed high and bond prices

azınes

reader

have soared away. You could even say that,



while there was current infla-

ative to company earnings.

But this is not sustainable

Asset prices cannot go up rela-

tive to current prices for ever,

any more than bouse prices can

rise faster than earnings. At

some stage a new equilibrium

has to be reached: there is either

a plateau - or maybe a slump.

This brings us to the new

HAMISH MCRAE

It is possible that we will go back to trend growth after the millennium ... but the risks

remain on the

downside

(The main bit that does not is the tion, rising prices of goods and employment figures, which services were available to abhave been strong, but this may sorb excess monetary growth. be the result of lags.) Talking to Now the money is not mopped siness people with activities up in that way and goes into right across the country, I catch holding up share prices. This is the impression that there is by no means only a British still very solid demand. Providphenomenon. In fact the excess ed the price is right, people will liquidity argument is even still buy. Volumes, in general, are atronger in the US. Share fine. The problem is getting the price to a level where people feel prices are at a 40-year high relthey are getting good value. As the year moves on, demand will

AND THEN WHAT? Back to

pected in the second half.

be further stoked by the mil-

money to fix, and the more pos-

itive "party-time" spending ex-

Bank forecasts for the UK trend growth? Well, it is certainly INFLATION, WHAT INFLATION? World producer price Inflation percentage changes on a year earlier ---- Euro area ---- G7 ex UK UK GDP and real money supply percentage changes on a year earlier - Real GDP

5.0 1978 80 82 84 86 88 90 92 94 96 98 possible. It may transpire that economy. It expects a pause in

covery in the second, and a resumption of trend growth next year. This is more or less what the market expects, and presumably what the Treasury will also forecast when it brings out its new numbers at the time of the Budget, now less than four weeks away. It is very hard to disagree

the first half of the year, a re-

when there is such a high degree of consensus about some-thing, particularly since most of the factual evidence seems to support the conventional view.

the majority is right after all, and it is a plausible notion that the pause in UK growth this year will have allowed some modest rebalancing of the economy so that it can resume trend growth after a longish period of out-performance. But is not a period of below-trend growth really just as

Because of the separate publication of the Inflation Report people no longer pay much attention to the parent publication, the Bank's Quarterly Bulletin. This is a pity because about this one.

it is dealing with a problem that, unlike current inflation, still exists: the threat of global recession. No, it is not saying that this will happen, but its commentary on events since the publication of the last edition, in November, has a consistently cautious tone.

Japan is still in the deepest

recession since 1955, when GDP data was first collected. The US had very strong growth in the final quarter of last year. but the headline figures masked a slowdown in final demand, and manufacturing weakened sharply in the second half of last year. The euro zone had a good third quarter and consumer confidence has remained high, but business sentiment has weakened. Growth forecasts for Germany and France are being shaded down. And outside of the developed world, uncertainties remain in Brazil and China.

lennium: the negative aspects of ASK THIS QUESTION; what will be the booming economies of the year 2000? The US? Not if the millennium bug, which costs it has to pull the whole of the world economy along with it, and certainly not if the longawaited market correction takes place. The euro zone? It may do all right, but it needs to do better. Japan? Well, maybe there will be some sort of recovery, but it can hardly be a vigorous one. The rest of east Asia? Yes, there may be some recovery at last, but it will at best be patchy. The rest of the world? There will be pockets of decent growth - outer Europe may well be one - but these will not be large enough to act as engines for the world.

To say all this is not to forecast a global recession. But it is to acknowledge that the risks for the world economy remain on the downside. The IMF published a special interim assessment of the world economy at the end of last year, in which it pointed out that the industrial production of the world economy is now growing more slowly than at any time since the beginning of the 1990s.

The pattern of growth is differently distributed, for then the US, Canada and western Europe were in actual recession, while Asia was growing at more than 5 per cent a year. By the end of last year there were patchy signs of recovery in Asia, but looked at in aggregate, the rest of the world was only inching forward. Estimates for world trade growth this year are being correspondingly downgraded. Sure, the services sector continues to run more strongly than the industrial one, and that may keep the world out of absolute recession. But the margin between a slowly growing world economy and one that is not growing at all is quite fine.

Maybe we do not yet need a Recession Report, after all. The halance of probability is that there will be some sort of global growth through next year even if it is pretty muted. But the idea that there is a bit of a slowdown then everything returns to trend and we can all relax is too easy. I remain more concerned about next year than



### Vaux dream turns into a nightmare

**Associate City Editor** 

FOR SIR Paul Nicholson, chairman of the Sunderland-based brewer Vaux Group, the last few days have degenerated into a waking nightmare as everything he has worked for threatens to crumble into dust. It was bad enough late last year when he put up for sale the group's Sunderland hrewery, a huge facade that dominates the centre of the city.

This was a difficult decision for Sir Paul, a pillar of the Northeast establishment whose list of interests reads like a roll-call of Wearside's top committees and development projects. The brewery employs 600 workers, sponsors the local football club and has been in the Nicholson family for generations.

But in the name of shareholder value, he agreed to it. Imagine his relief, then, when a saviour emerged in the form of his brother Frank, another pillar of the North-east establishment who sits on the Vaux board and runs the brewing operations. He offered to buy the business for an estimated £80m and was later given four weeks of exclusive negotiating rights.

It was a resolution made in heaven. Not only would it save the brewery and the jobs but it would protect the family's reputation. Sir Paul, a somewhat crusty old Harrovian with the slow rounded vowels of the upper classes, would be able to continue wearing with pride his uniform of Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham.

Now the Grand Design is in tatters. And again, the spectre of shareholder value looms large. The "blame" is being heaped on Vaux's chief executive and finance director, who lobbed a grenade into the Nicholson camp when they said that more value could be realised by razing the Sunderland brewery to the ground and flogging the land for redevelopment while contracting out the brewing of Vaux brands to another operator.

The two rebel directors, Martin Grant and Neil Gossage, were spectacularly sacked after lobbying shareholders behind

News Analysis: A rescue plan for the Sunderland brewery has become the casualty in a battle between shareholder value and local pride

further horror Rudderless, de-

fenceless and with a powerful

array of institutional sharehold-

ers who must wonder what is

going on, Vaux finds itself an en-

feebled takeover target. And Sir

Paul, like Rocco Forte before him,

faces the grim prospect of being

remembered as the man who

lost control of the family business

As one local expert put it: "If

that happens the Nicholsons

would have lost everything they

have worked for" Another says:

"Sir Paul is saddened by what

has happened but he is holding

up the flag of shareholder value." One North-eastern husi-

after more than 120 years.

the board's back after losing the membered, Sir Paul faces a vote on the issue.

The Vaux issue is a straight conflict between a family business trying to do the right thing by the local community and its reputation, and the cold-eyed logic of corporate governance and shareholder value.

The Nicholsons' actions are understandable and Sir Paul apparently excluded himself from the vote on the decision to grant his brother exclusive negotiating rights due to his obvious conflict of interests.

But a look at some figures and the composition of the Vaux board raises serious questions. One view is that the company

Rebel directors: Martin Grant, chief executive, (left) and Neil Gossage, finance director, have been sacked

millions more than Frank reflects: "The brewery has been valuation excludes any higher price that may have been achieved via closure and rede-

The board is also packed with Nicholson supporters. The leading non-executive director, Stephen Gibbs, is Sir Paul's brother in law. Another: Anthony Wood, has worked at Vaux since 1970 and is a former managing director of its Swallow Hotels division. This is hardly the most impartial group of individuals. But now, with the board dis-

could have sold the brewery for nessman who knows Vaux well Nicholson's offer. This under- uneconomic for years but Sir Paul fought tooth and nail to maintain it. For a while it seemed that he was more concerned with his own image and standing in the local community than Vaux shareholders. But you can see why he is doing it. If you like, this is the North-east wearing its heart on its sleeve."

The decision to sell the brewing operations was taken somewhat helatedly after a long period of under-performance. In the last five years Vaux shares have under-performed the mar-

ket by 32 per cent. That figure worsens to 63 per cent over the last 10 years. Profits last year were half the level of 1994. Diversifications have performed poorly. Vaux went into nursing homes but later sold them. Its beer brands are popular locally but have little following outside the North-east. The main success has been the creation of the Swallow chain of hotels,

The catalyst came last year when the company received takeover approaches that were thought to have come from Stakis, the hotels group, and Whitbread.

Sir Paul had been in the process of engineering his retirement from the group, though that may now have to be delayed. given the boardroom fall-out. He was groomed for a life in the establishment. After an education at Harrow and Cambridge he joined the Coldstream Guards and later the Northumberland Hussars. He qualified as a char-tered accountant at Price Waterhouse and then joined the family husiness in 1965 at the age of 27. He has been there ever since.

Though he is credited with a sharp mind, those who know him say he has a rather distant air. "It can take him a while to even acknowledge your existence." one colleague says. And while Vaux built a reputation as a caring, paternal employer, Sir Paul is not considered on friendly terms with the staff.

His brother is different. "Mr Frank," as the staff know him, is popular on the shop floor. Though he has the same Harrow and Cambridge background as his brother and, according to one observer "looks and talks like Derek Nimmo," be has the common touch.

His proposal to buy the brewery has cast him in the role of local hero. But if the corporate shenanigans carry on like this, the whole business may be taken over and broken up before he has the chance to successful execute his family's reprieve.

Its salvation, however may be found in timing. Ladbroke's £1.2bn takeover of Stakis earlier this week effectively removes the two most likely predators from the fray.

#### US trade clash looms

THE PROSPECT of a new transatlantic trade clash loomed last night as the EU moved to extend a ban on hormone-treated beef until the completion of safety tests, expected at the end of the year, writes Stephen Castle in Brussels.

The decision means Europe will continue with restrictions beyond 13 May, the deadline set a year ago by the World Trade Organisation, for them to be lifted. The decision comes as Brus-

s and Washington are locked in battle over the EU's banana import regime, and amid fears that a third dispute will erupt over genetically-modified foods. Yesterday the European

Commission set out three posvible courses of action to cover the period between 13 May and the end of the year, by which time the safety tests on hormonetreated should be completed.

The Commission will consult ministers of the 15 EU states and the European Parliament before settling on a course of action.

#### Just another rail commuter

JOHN O'BRIEN'S job as franchising director of Britain's rail network is being replaced by the new post of chief executive of the shadow Strategic Rail Authority.

John Prescott, the Minister for Transport, Environment and the Regions, has let it be known that he wants "new faces" to regulate the deeply unpopular privatised railways.

Asked yesterday whether he was applying for the new title, Mr O'Brien acidly replied: "It would have been embarrassing if I had applied because I would have been a good candidate for the job. But if they wanted me to do the job they would have approached

For good measure, the spurned Mr O'Brien added: "It would have been churlish to have applied for the one job where the Deputy Prime Minister said he wanted to see a change.

Incidentally; commuters might like to know that Mr O'Brien takes the train in each day to work from his home in Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. In the latest performance assessment published yesterday,

#### PEOPLE AND BUSINESS

By JOHN WILLCOCK

Mr O'Brien awarded the company that operates his service, Silverlink, (on a scale of A to E) the lowest mark of E.

#### **Casual Brits**

AMERICANS LOVE "dress down Friday" but many of their British colleagues are dressing down all the time, according to the Department of Trade and Industry.

"One employee in two equivalent to 13.5 million workers - is no longer required to wear a suit and tie," according to research commissioned by a DTI body Inside UK Enterprise. on how to lose weight. Without

"Three in five bosses now help employees to combat workrelated stress, offering benefits ranging from rest and relaxation rooms to free massage sessions," it says.

And to round off this picture of a land of milk and honey, the DTI adds that only 16 per cent



of companies still ask staff to clock on and off.

#### Weight watching

MEDEVA THOUGHT it was onto a winner when it developed the anti-obesity drug Ionamin, Sales of the slimming pill took off in the US, but then slumped when worries about side-effects appeared Yesterday Medeva admitted there was "no recovery

in sight" to the drug's sales. Not to worry Medeva has just opened its doors in the US to Weight Watchers, who are advising staff across the company using pills.

No doubt to take their minds off such matters, Medeva's chief executive Bill Bogie, and three of his Medeva colleagues, including Garry Watts, finance director, bought a racehorse a cupie of years ago.

deputy editor Andrew Gowers, Germany.

This ambitious idea involves hiring around 100 journalists to E-mail: j.willcock@indepen produce a completely new dent.co.uk

a few times since then, but this newspaper paper in German. If the plans get the go-ahead, year they are planning to give the FT aims to launch "at the him a run out, somewhere in the south of England. Cheltenham, end of this year or next spring". according to Richard Lambert, the FT's editor.

#### Grab Berlitz

perhaps?

THE MERGER between Société Générale and Paribas has got London-based employees of the two French banks sweating about a possible 500 job cuts in

the City.

Anxieties have been fuelled by a questionnaire from Paribas to its London staff which gives no less than six opportunities for employees to state whether they can speak French. Quick, where's the "Rerlitz"

#### FT promotions

CONGRATULATIONS to Philip Stephens, who has been promoted from political columnist at the Financial Times to become the pink'uns' UK editor.

The previous incumbent, in London". has gone to Hamburg to head up the FT's new drive into

Kremlin-watchers within the

FT Lubyanka are split as to whether this means Mr Stephens is now a more likely successor to Mr Lambert as editor in chief than Mr Gowers.

Tantalisingly, Mr Lambert refused to be drawn on any possible succession debate.

#### London garage

THE LUCKY directors of South African Breweries are each being given a £100,000 London housing allowance in the run up to their listing on the London Stock Exchange next month.

Graham Mackay, chief executive of the world's fourth largest brewer, says that "the price of a four-bedroom house with an acre of land in South Africa would get you a garage

I will keep a sharp eye out for Mr Mackay or any of his fellow directors selling the Bio Issue outside Waterloo Station.

Aberdeen New Dawn Investment Trust PLC (the "Company" or "Aberdeen New Dawn") TENDER OFFER AY HSBC INVESTMENT BANK PLC TO PURCHASE UP TO 50% OF ABERDEEN NEW DAWN'S ORDINARY SHARES AND 100% OF ITS SERIES A WARRANTS

Aberdeen New Dawa announces that, by means of a circular dated and dispatched to shareholders on 10 February 1999 (the "Circular") that HSSC Investment Bank ple as broker to the Company has made an offer (the "Tender Offer") to purchase up to 50% of the Company's ordinary shares "Ordinary Shares") as enlarged following amplementation of the scheme referred to below and all of the Company's outstanding series A warrants ("Series A Warrants"). The Tender Offer is also being extended to up to 12 million new Aberdeen New Dawn ordinary shares to be issued to shareholders of Aberdeen Emerging Asia Investment Trust Limited, pursuant to the implementation of a scheme of

by reference to a shareholder's and/or warrantholder's holding on 19 March 1999. Shareholders will also be able to tender in excess of 50° of their holding with such excess tenders being satisfied on a pro rata basis to the extent other shareholders do not tender this full entitlement.

The full terms and conditions of the Tender Offer are set out in the Circular.

The Tender Offer is not being made directly or indirectly in or into the United States of America or Canada. This advertisement is not being published or otherwise distributed or sent in or into the United States of America or Canada and persons reading this advertisement fineluding custodians, nominess and trustees) must not distribute or send this advertisement, the Carcular or any related documents in, into or from the United States of America or Canada

The Tender Offer will close at 3.00 pm on Wednesday 16 March 1999. Tender forms must be completed and returned by this date in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Circular and the tender form. The Tender Offer is, by means of this advertisement, extended to all persons to whom the Circular may not be dispatched who hold, or who are entitled to have unconditionally allotted or issued to them, Ordinary Shares of Series A Warrants in Aberdeer New Dawn. Copies of the Circular and the accompanying tender forms will be available for collection from Bank of Scotland, New Issues, Apex House, Haddington Place, Edinburgh, EH7 4AL.

The contents of this advertisement, for which the directors and proposed directors of Aberdeen New Dawn are responsible, have been approved by HSBC Investment Bank plc, which is regulated by the Securities and Futures Authority Limited, solely for the purposes of section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986.

The directors and proposed directors of Aberdeen New Dawn accept responsibility for information contained in this advertisement and to the best of their knowledge and belief thaving taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this advertisement is in accordance with the facts and does not omn anything likely to affect the import of such information.

11 February 1999

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#### Thursday 11 February 1999

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## Supermarket merger talk lifts a dull day

THE STOCK market never lets go of a good takeover rumour - particularly one that looks eminently feasible. For the umpteenth time the story of an Asda takeover of supermarket rival Safeway was given a whirl and, in heavy trading, Asda shares added 2.75p to 154.75p and Safeway 8.5p to 298.5p.

There were, it was alleged, some shrewd buyers chasing the shares. Whether they decided to alight on the supermarket twosome on a particularly dull, uneventful session may, of course, have been pure coincidence.

Asda and Safeway have talked merger. Eighteen months ago the two abandoned discussions when it became apparent that Westminster would not be too happy about any deal

But, argued yesterday's buyers, times change and with the new wealth creation attitude at the Department of Trade and Industry, the su-

WILLIAM BAIRD, the textile group, may be in play. The shares rose 10p to 96p after a 7p gain on Tuesday.

Some buyers have been attracted by the 13 per cent dividend yield. But there are also suggestions of corporate action with, perhaps, a venture

capitalist looking at the strength of the group and pondering a break up bid. Baird has said it expects last year's profits before exceptionals to be around

permarketeers had been tempted to resume talks. Since the earlier negotiations ended, there have been a number of flurries as stories have circulated of new talks. The shares of the two chains

are well below their peaks.

Asda hit 218.75p last year; Safe-

way topped 400p two years Footsie spent the day fret-

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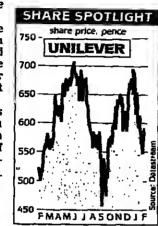
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MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN



duced an 82.2 points deficit to 9.7 at 5.770.2 when US shares displayed rather more resilience than expected. It was the sixth fall on the trot. Undercard shares weakened although takeovers, real and rumoured, continued to cast their spell.

Any share which had been surfing higher on the back of, sometimes vague, Internet associations come under pressure, Dixons fell 41.5p to 982.5p and Reuters 39.5p to 793.5p. EMI, with the added discomfort of any lack of takeover action, lost 30.75p to 421.75p. Psion, with a profits warning to boot, retreated 115p to

But BSkyB, on its betterthan-expected digital TV expension, gained 60.5p to 474.75p despite a sharp profits fall. Its digital success ruffled Carlton Communications, one of the two rival Ondigital providers.

other Ondigital adventurer, lost 8.5p to 1,126.5p.

Unilever, in retreat for most of this year, rallied 36.5p to 582.5p as the market indulged in another of its favourite games, arbitraging between the British and Dutch ends of the food and soap behemoth. National Power rose 11.5p

to 511.5p and United Utilities. 9p to 812p. The two admitted having held merger talks. GRE, the insurance group.

fell a further 2,75p to 344p as bidder Sun Life & Provincial gave up another 9p to 460p. The bid was worth around 390p when it was agreed.

Banks were firmer with Lloyds TSB, figures to morrow, up 7p to 758p. Allied Irish Bank, said to be a Lloyds target, was given another whiri but, after an early 37.5p gain, settled for a 6p plus at 1,111p.

Booker, the cash-and-carry chain, was another bid candidate to run out of steam. At one time up 7p, the shares ended 1.5p higher at 67.5p.

But excitement intensified at Field, the packaging group. The shares firmed 12.5p to 356p after a bidding war between two US groups erupted. Shorewood launched an agreed 350p a share offer, topping a 320p shot from Chesapeake which let it be known that it may well return to the frag.

Cleveland, a property group, held at 101p after rejecting a "wholly inadequate" offer, and loss adjuster Pycraft & Arnold firmed to 66.5p after a cash and shares offer from Fishers International, a financial services group.

Eclipse Blinds, up 30p at 87.5p, said it was in talks and Pubs 'n' Bars held at 55p after confirming it was talking to the Real Leisure pubs chain. Lionheart, a household goods group, succumbed to profit taking, falling 0.5p to 5.5p, after saying it was in talks with a potential bidder.

Vaux, the brewing and hotels group rocked by a boardroom brawl, frothed 28p higher to 301.5p on the belief that the row has left the group open to ting about New York and re-down 38p to 596p. Granada, the a takeover strike.

Monument Oil & Gas flared 4.5p to 41.5p with corporate activity in the oil industry prompting suggestions that it could soon be a target.

Reunion Mining, which has admitted bid talks, rose a further 12.5p to 88p, and GB Railways, which denied hid action, steamed ahead, adding 13.5p to 178.5p.

Racal Electronic fell 10.50

to 378p ahead of a Henderson Constitueite investment dinner at London's Howard Hotel Henderson was also at the nearby Savoy Hotel where Ramco Energy, unchanged at 230p, was the subject of an investment dinner

British American Tobacco fell 20p to 613p following reports that rival Philip Morris had been successfully sued by a smoker who contracted

Johnson Matthey, the metals group, eased 12.5p to 440p as analysts left to examine its American operations.

MATALAN, the discount clothing chain, has defied the retail gloom. The shares rose 13p to 465p. highest since last spring's flotation. They seem destined to move into the FTSE 250 index after next month's quarterly review. There is already evidence of tracker funds preparing for the group's elevation. Engineer Rotork arrived in the mid cap index yesterday, ending 3p higher at 399p, a peak. It replaced advertising group Abbott Mead Vickers.

Phytopharm, developing drugs from plants, sprouted 26p to 201.5p following coverage of the potential lurking in South Africa's vegetation.

Keystone Software fell 4.5p to 12p. It is aiming to raise £1.5m through a placing and open offer at 10p a share.

SEAQ VOLUME: 958.2m SEAQ TRADES: 70,661 GILTS INDEX: 115.74 +018

#### INVESTMENT

### South African brewer seeks £200m in London

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN

SOUTH AFRICAN Breweries, the world's fourth biggest brewer, which is moving its primary listing from Johannesburg to London next month and raising up to £200m of new money to find expansion in emerging markets made life as difficult as possible for investors yesterday.

The pathfinder prospectus, which journalists were allowed to see but not to keep yesterday, is short on hard numbers, but long on the potential for the group once it is free to raise capital to expand outside its South African homeland.

The growth record is good. Over the seven years from 1992 to March 1998, turnover has risen by 65 per cent in real terms. Earnings per share over the same period have more than doubled to 6.01 rand (about 60p today), an average compound growth rate of 13.1 per cent, and the return on equity has averaged 17.3 per cent.

Almost 80 per cent of profits are generated inside South Africa, however, which creates a potential problems for UK investors if either inflation or exchange controls reduce the

flow of earnings into sterling. The breweries alone contribute 57 per cent. Beer con-



sumption is rising strongly and beer itself costs 20p a pint, but SAB has 98 per cent of the local market and could itself be vulnerable to a determined push from outside competition.

Soft drinks accounted for 14 of turnover but only 3 per cent per cent of profits last year, more than half of that from the joint venture with Coca-Cola which comes up for renewal in 2007. Hotels and garning gen- per cent of profits last year, but 2 March.

94 95 96 97 98 99 erated 5 per cent. SAB's retail and most of its industrial interests have been sold off over the last two years and the remaining industrial holding company, PGSL accounted for 27 per cent

of profits. It is up for sale as soon as the price is right.

almost wholly from emerging markets in Africa and Poland where most of the new money will be invested. There are no

plans to enter the UK market. Existing shares are being split on a two-for-one basis, up to £150m worth of new shares are being placed with institutions, mainly in the UK, with a further £50m in reserve, and two South African companies. JIC and Anglo-American, are selling 38 million shares between them in the hope of rais-

ing around £200m. Another South African bolding company, Bevcon, has agreed not to sell any of its 28.5 per cent stake in SAB but this lock-in expires on 8 January next year.

The share price in South Africa is £10.20 at the current exchange rate. It values the entire company at around £4bn after the placing and after the split sets a target share price of around 500p and a possible 12 times future earnings.

But this is not necessarily a guide to a fair price in London. Less dynamic but safer rivals include Bass, on 16 times earnings. Heineken on 12 times and Carlsberg on 34 times. Something less than 500p would Brewing outside South make the shares more attrac-Africa generated another 23 tive when dealings begin on

#### Medeva faces another tough year

MEDEVA, Britain's fourth largest drug company, yesterday warned its long-suffering shareholders to prepare for another year of hardship as it revealed a slump in interim profits.

The company said that a collapse in sales of Methylphenidate, its best selling treatment for hyperactive children, contributed to a 47 per cent plunge in pre-tax profits to £59.3m in the first half of the financial year. Revenues from the drug have been savaged by the entry of a new competitor.

Schein Pharmaceuticals, in the tightly regulated US market. The near 40 per cent fall in Methylphenidate's revenue

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

was only partially offset by an 11 per cent rise in the rest of Medeva's portfolio. The figures sent the shares down 2p to 102.5p, well below their 330p

peak reached in 1997. The inance director, Garry Watts, said profits would fall again this year, hit by the continuing slide in Methylphenidate's sales. However, he added that profits would recover in 2000 as new products entered the market.

sure. Medeva's biggest hope to treatments and cancer drugs, counter Methylphenidate's ter- is not exciting. The chief execminal decline is Hepagene, a viewe, Bill Bogie, maintains that

vaccine for hepatitis B to be launched in the middle of 2000. Sales could reach some £200m a year, not a spectacular level but enough to fuel Medeva's profits for some time.

However, Hepagene could become a real moneyspinner if Medeva can get it approved as a treatment of hepatitis as well as a vaccine. A positive result from clinical trials could push Hepagene's earnings potential to some £500m overnight.

Medeva's problem is that the rest of the pipeline, which Industry analysts are not so, includes asthma and cough

its strategy of picking up fledgling drugs from biotechnology companies and old treatments from big pharmaceuticals groups while spending little on its own research will yield benefits in the long run.

One City analyst disagreed: "This strategy is unproven. This company needs a big product to drive growth."

After the recent slide, the shares are on just nine times 1999 earnings, expected to be around £54m. But unless a predator comes in with a takeover, it's difficult to see how they will go up before 2000. As one analyst put it. "This is a growth stock without growth."

It's **Time** 

for clear explanations in plain English - not jargon

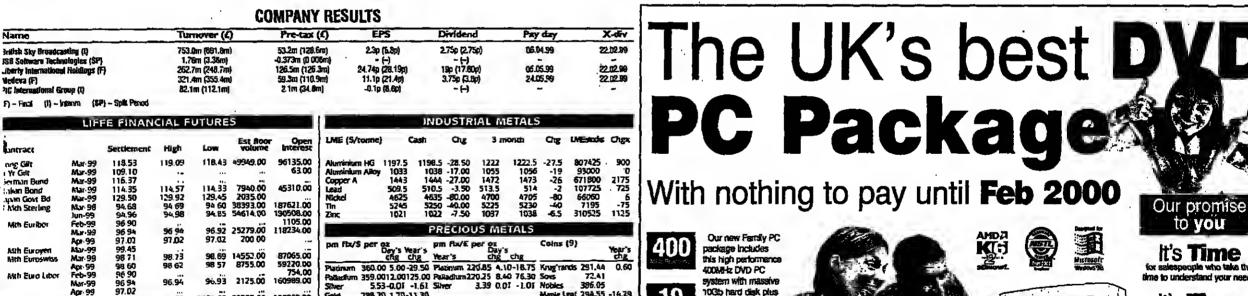
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### **SPORT**

FA Cup fifth round: Fulham's trip to Old Trafford brings back painful memories for their most famous follower

### The day United silenced Jimmy Hill

IN THE best known of his myriad football incarnations, Jimmy Hill has talked the nation through thousands of goals. But the one he is describing is different. For one thing, it gave Fulham a foothold in the FA Cup final at the expense of Manchester United. For another, he

scored it himself. It is semi-final day at Villa Park, barely seven weeks after the Munich air disaster of 1958, and Fulham stand between Manchester United and an emotional return to Wembley. Before a crowd of nearly 70,000 people the Second Division side have cancelled out an early goal by the young Bobby Chariton and are about to get their noses, or rather chins, in front.

As Des Lynam might have said, how did you see it, Jun? "Our keeper, Tony Macedo, threw the ball to Roy Dwight, Elton John's cousin. I saw an opening between the centrebacks and went on a through run. Roy hit a spectacular pass in front of me. It was just a question of getting there first and putting it past Harry Gregg, which I did."

There is no Alan Hansen present to tease Hill about how much the goal owed to "diabolical defending"; no Trevor Brooking to puncture his assertion that "I thought I'd scored the winning goal". But while Chariton quickly equalised, only the harshest pundit could have denied Fulham's right to a replay after an injury to Jim Langley effectively left United facing 10 men for the entire second half.

When the sides reconvened at Highbury, Fulham trailed 3-0 but battled back and were only 4-3 down when Johnny Haynes had a "goal" disallowed with five minutes left. "We saw later on Pathé News that it should have stood but in pushing for the equaliser, we let in a fifth," recalls Hill. "I was terribly disappointed because, as it turned out, it was my one chance to play in a Wembley final."

As underdogs, Hill and his colleagues would have been popular winners in normal circumstances. hut in the aftermath of Munich he remembers "the country was rooting for United". However, the roles will be well and truly reversed on Sunday when United and Fulham play it again as Premiership and Second Division leaders respectively in the fifth round at a packed

It is an occasion the London club would probably not have been around to enjoy but for Hill. The latest owner, Mohamed Al Fayed, may have raised their profile and prospects by allowing Kevin Keegan to lavish millions on the team. Yet it was Hill who, by putting together a consortium to rescue them from a merger most foul with Queen's Park Rangers in 1987, preserved Fulham's identity and football at Craven Cottage.

Since Keegan's side earned the tie by beating Aston Villa at the scene of his semi-final goal, their Cup run has inevitably stirred fond memories for Hill. Now 70, his affection for Fulham dates back six decades to when his father and uncle, milkmen both, first took him to a game.

He went back as a trialist at 15 and, in 1952, made a "sentimental" return when Fulham bought him from Brentford weeks before being relegated from the old First Division. First as a wing-half and later at inside-forward - he scored five at

'I went to the public meeting. The club looked as if it would die. People were asking: Will you do this? I could not resist'

Doncaster a week before the United game - Hill was part of the team who restored their status and cemented the image of Fulham as a club hristling with charisma and

There was something about the place itself: the quaintness of the park; the open terrace parallel to the

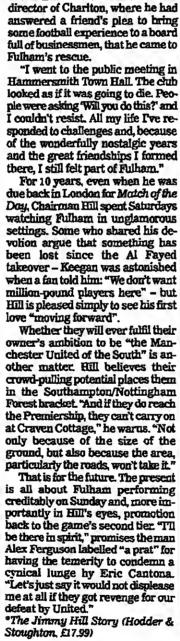
It was matched by a plethora of personalities ranging from the chairman, comedian Tommy Trinder, to players such as Haynes, Bobby Robson, "Tosh" Chamberlain and Hill, who already stood out for his "beatnik" beard and work as chairman of million-pound players here" - but the Professional Footballers' Asso-

"The Dean family, who made blinds in Putney, owned the club, and

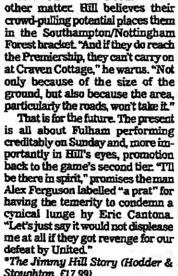
Cottage, nestting in a corner of the ground bordered by a picturesque Thames where the flags of all their rivals fluttered; the absence of floodlights until the early 1960s.

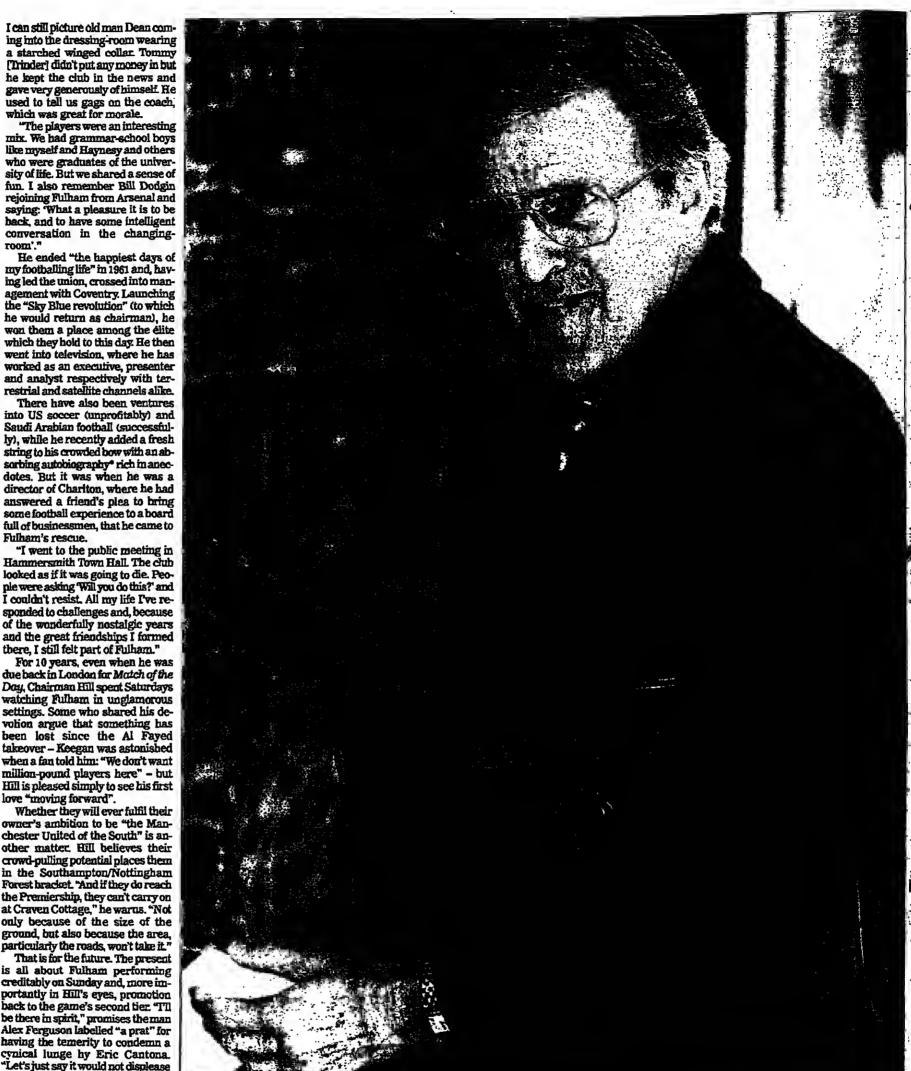
Jimmy Hill gives Fulham a 2-1 lead at Villa Park in the 1958

FA Cup semi-final against Manchester United



which was great for morale.





Jimmy Hill has held jobs in football on three continents, but remains devoted to his first love. Fulham

Daily Mirror

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### Golden Boy's grail is unification

THIS WEEKEND in Las Vegas, boxing's "Golden Boy", Oscar De La Hova, embarks on what he has termed "a comeback" - a curious choice of words, perhaps, as the World Boxing Council welterweight champion's absence has hardly been

But having been restricted hy injury to only two fights in 1998, the undefeated De La Hoya believes it is necessary for him to defend his championship at least four times this year if he is to establish himself as the greatest fighter of his era. And if things pan out for the welterweight division over the coming months, it could yet be quite some era.

Over the past two years De La Hoya has featured in seven title fights, earning a total of \$58m (£36.7m). And on Saturday night at the cavernous Thomas & Mack Center in the Nevada Desert's neon gambling oasis. De La Hoya will collect a further \$10m for facing his toughest opponent to date, Ike "Bazooka" Quartey, an unbeaten Ghanaian who until recently held the World Boxing Association title in the 10st 7lb weight class.

But while De La Hoya is unchallenged as the biggest non-heavy-weight draw in boxing, his superiority within the welterweight ranks is as yet unproven. Quartey

Oscar De La Hoya this weekend starts a series of title fights that could make him the greatest boxer of his era. By Glyn Leach

feated International Boxing Federation champion, Felix Trinidad, has a very real claim to welterweight supremacy, while the power of the unsung James Page. Quartey's successor as WBA champion after the African was stripped of the title last year, makes him the dangerous dark horse of the division. And then there is the veteran former titleholder Pernell Whitaker, whose loss by decision to De La Hoya in April 1997 was questioned in many cor-

Without doubt, the welterweight class is the most compelitive in contemporary world boxing. It has been compared with the middleweight division of the early-to-mid 1980s, when Sugar Ray Leonard, Marvin Hagier, Thomas Hearns and Roberto Duran helped a soporific, pre-Tyson heavyweight scene skulk out of the spotlight. Where that esteemed quartet featured in a series of 10 spirited and skilled battles against each other, today's welterweights - the De La Hoya-Whitaker bout aside - have so far been steered well clear of each other by cautious managers and promoters.

There has, however, been a sea

by a policy review at Home Box Office, America's premier pay-perview network, towards the end of last year. Known as the "cash-to-burn" network. HBO became tired of not receiving value for its money and let it be known that, in future, HBO fighters would either have to take competitive bouts, for which they would continue to be handsomely



aside, the hard-hitting and unde- change in world boxing, prompted De La Hoya: Competitive class

Immediately, a series of exciting match-ups were made - the most notable being the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield heavyweight unification match set for 13 March in New York - and HBO's chief rival, the Don King-affiliated Showtime network, was forced to follow suit. With King currently doing business with HBO for the first time in years, the cross-television divide that had reduced world boxing to a non-competitive farce appears to have come

to an end, if only temporarily. "Boxing has a perpetual cold; it's never in perfect health," said the HBO chief, Seth Abraham. "But to try and prove his toughness by right now people are talking about it and writing about it. Is '99 going to he a busy year? We hope so."

The strength of the new cordiality will be tested by the outcome and aftermath of WBC and IBF welterweight little bouts over the next two weekends. De La Hoya-Quartey sees two HBO fighters locking horns, but the following weekend in New York, King enters the mix when Trinidad - promoted by King and contracted to Showtime defends his IBF belt against HBO's

Yet De La Hoya's promoter, Bob

#### Arum, is confident that welterweight unification can be achieved. "Per-sonally, I'd prefer that Whitaker wins the fight; if it's Trinidad, you have to deal with Don King," he said.

"But either way, Felix and Pernell can he made with Oscar" Unbeaten in 35 fights (one draw, 29 wins by knockout), the 29-year-old Quartey is a livewire challenger for De La Hoya, who will be boxing 11 days after his 25th birthday. But the African, who was stripped of the WBA title for refusing to make a mandatory defence, is somewhat mechanical and De La Hoya has the technical skills to dismantle him for the 30th win of his career (currently featuring 23 stoppages) - providing that the Golden Boy does not decide

establish themselves as boxing's

engaging the savage left-hooker in a punch-out Regardless of whoever emerges as champion, what is important to the sport's future is that the winner of the WBC fight meets whoever the IBF champion might transpire to be (and Trinidad is favoured to retain at Madison Square Garden due to Whitaker's long absence through drug rehabilitation) before the end of the year in order to keep the newfound momentum building. And by so doing, the welterweights could

fight and he hasn't even got this one out of the way yet. I'm relaxed, I've

#### Reid aims to take Calzaghe's title

ROBIN REID has warned Joe By DAMIAN SPELLMAN Calzaghe to stay focused on the pre-sent and let the future take care of itself - or risk losing his world super-middleweight title.

The Manchester fighter, who faces the Welsh World Boxing Organisation champion at Newcastle Arena on Saturday night, is refusing to look any further ahead than this weekend as he attempts to relieve Calzaghe of his crown. However, Reid feels that Calzaghe is treating victory a a foregone conclusion and thinking ahead prematurely to pos-sible unification deals involving

Steve Collins and Roy Jones Jnr. "It honestly doesn't bother me. I don't need that sort of stuff to get me going," said Reid, . who lost his World Boxing Council super-middleweight title in a surprise defeat by South Africa's Sugar Boy Malinga in December 1997. "I've been the underdog before: I've been written off before - and I prefer that, to be honest. The pressure is off me. The pressure is on Joe. He's talking about doing me in three rounds or whatever round he's on now, I can't re-

"He's looking towards his next trained hard and I'm mentally and we're not all like that."

physically prepared. I know Pm going to perform and I'm going to

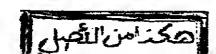
Reid's trainer, Brian Hughes, is confident his man can do a job and dismissed a local newspaper report which polled 12 experts who unanimously tipped Calzaghe.

"All 12 are wrong, and we'll find out on Saturday night," Hughes said. "I've never seen Robin so motivated for a contest as he is for this one. They're definitely wrong, I can assure you."

As well as his boxing, Reid has made something of a name for himself as a model, but he is determined that the sideline will not get in the

way of the main business. "My main priority is my boxing." he said. "Twe been boxing since I was eight. I was an England international at 17 or 18 and went to the Olympics. I've always been a boxer, and that's

always been the main priority. "Some people knock it and say he's too involved in his modelling, but that's not true. A lot of people's perceptions of boxers is the flat nose, cauliflower ears and not being able to string a sentence together. But do. a bit of modelling and it proves



### Florimo signals change of style

Henry Paul has been replaced at Wigan by a No 6 more in tune with his rugby league team-mates.

By Dave Hadfield

IT IS refreshing evidence of the continuing diversity of rugby league that Wigan's No 6 shirt this season will be worn by a player so different in style from

his predecessor. Greg Florimo, who makes his competitive debut for his new club in the most demanding of circumstances in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie at Leeds on Sunday, brings a wide range of qualities to the crucial role of stand-off. But he is not and Th. never will be a Henry Paul, any more than Henry Paul is a Greg

> -Henry and I play very different styles." Florimo said. "Although I might lack some of his ability to ad lib. I'd like to think I bring some other strengths.

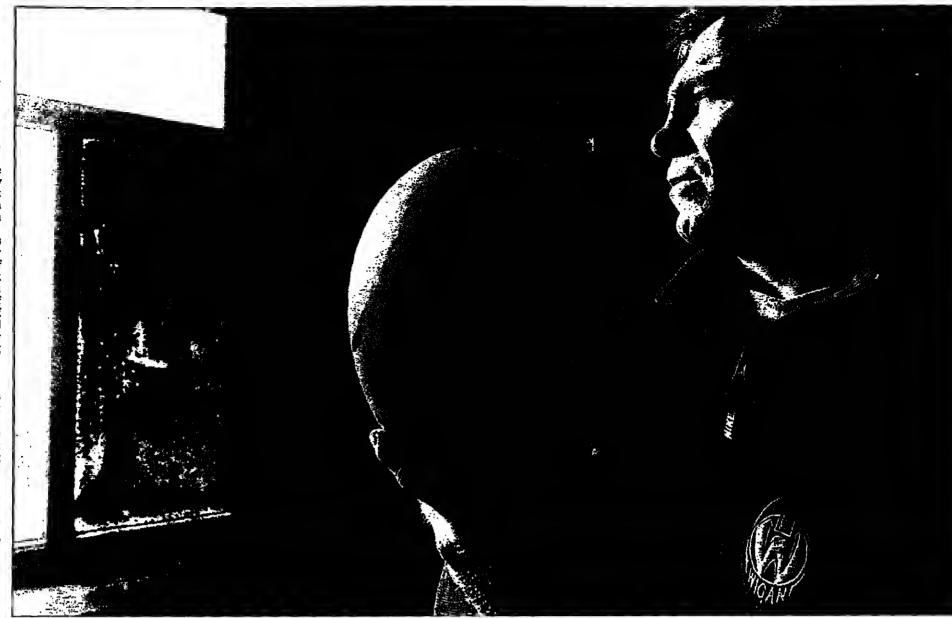
> "I'm pretty direct. I like to take defences on and, apart from my running game, I think I can be a pretty good link man for the players outside me."

Or, as his new coach, John Monie, puts it: "We might lose a bit of the unpredictability that we had with Henry. The players around him will know more of what to expect from Greg."

At 31, Florimo is something close to the ultimate, hardboiled Australian professional. That is why, when it came right down to making decisions on this year's budget, Monie preferred to have him on board. rather than the ucorthodox Paul, who has signed instead for the Bradford Bulls.

The Wigan eaptain, Andy Farrell, has noticed the differlence as well. In the couple of weeks since Florimo arrived, they have worked together on game plans and team structures, the sort of stuff that the mercurial New Zealander did not overly concern himself with that mucb.

The jury will be out for some time on whether the change will make Wigan a harder team to play against. But starting with



Greg Florimo arrives at Central Park after 12 years of Australian league - "Tm expecting to learn as much from the (Wigan) players as they learn from me'

ingley, they will certainly be different. It will be different for Florimo as well. After 12 years with North Sydney, he is starting a new career with only his second professional club.

"It felt a bit odd to be putting on a different shirt," he said after his first outing with Wigan, in the friendly at Halifax last week. "But it appeals to me fantastically to be going from that into a game like the one against

"The Challenge Cup is probably still the premier competition here, so I couldn't have a Sunday's showdown at Head better start. It's obviously a dif-

really think that we can go all the way to Wembley." The prospects of them doing

that despite the challenge of a side that came so close to matching them last season, depend to a large extent on Florimo and another Norths player he has been partly responsible for bringing to the

Mark Reber, who flew in this week after finally sorting out his immigration paperwork, was a team-mate in Australia and Florimo warmly recommended him to Wigan when they were so going into a game like Sun-

were not persuaded by his case.

ficult tie, but if we can win it we'll looking for the right player to complete this year's squad. John talked to me about needing another player and asked me how Mark went. I told him that he's a great player, with excellent speed and great hands."

Reber's arrival will also ease Florimo's transition, although playing in England has been on his agenda since touring here and winning two of his four Test caps in 1994.

Like many Australians, the noise and atmosphere created by British crowds made an immediate impression on him,

day's is a rapid introduction to what he came here for.

And there is also a powerful Norths connection at work, with the Leeds coach, Graham Murray due to take over at Florimo's old club next season.

When you look at what he's done at Leeds, where he's lifted them from what had been a few flat years, then he's obviously got the credentials."

North Sydney, however, is history now for Florimo, whose credentials in a role filled in recent years at Wigan by the likes of Brett Kenny, Shaun Edwards and Frano Botica comes

under serious scrutiny for the first time this weekend.

He warns the supporters not

to expect too much, too soon. "Although I've played a lot of first grade in Sydney, I'm not coming here with the attitude that I know everything. Even at the tender age of 31, I'm expecting to learn as much from the players here as they learn from me."

The quality of those players around him has already impressed Florimo. "I can't get over Jason Robinson, His athleticism and power and ability to take defences apart are something really special.

"I don't think he is the only player here who would get into an Australian side. Andy Farrell and Gary Connolly are in that

category as well "Playing with players like that makes it a lot easier for me to settle in."

Monie, for one, has always predicted that those players would greatly enjoy playing with Greg Florimo.

His ability to add an extra dimension to the side will rarely be tested more acutely than this Sunday against Leeds, but Florimo is ready to show what he can contribute,

#### Hanley calls on young centres

By DAVE HADFIELD

THE ST HELENS coach, Ellery Hanley, deprived of perhaps the most powerful centre pairing in the game, will put his faith in two virtually untried young players in his first competitive match in charge on Sunday.

Saints will not only be without their new signing. Kevin Iro, with an ankle injury but are also almost certain to have to manage without Paul Newlove, who has strained a hamstring, in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup tie at

That means a full debut for 18-year-old Paul Wellens, alongside Anthony Stewart, just a year older and with only a handful of first-team games on the wing behind him.

Hanley, however, has com-plete confidence in the youngster players, both of them Great Britain Academy internationals, he has had to call up.

Wellens has so much ability that he can play in just about any position in the backs," he said. "He is so confident and his attitude is excellent."

The match also marks the competitive debuts of Saints' close season signings, Sonny Nickle, Fereti Tuilagi and Phil Adamson, the latter two on the

Saints have signed the Oldham prop Michael Edwards. Edwards joins his home town club on a free transfer.

The Leeds coach, Graham Murray, is delaying a decision on who will play hooker for him in the tie of the round, against Wigan, Lee Jackson and Terry Newton, who have both played for Great Britain in the position, are both fit and in the 17-man squad, but Murray has yet to finalise who will start in the role

Britain's leading referee. Russell Smith, is to take charge of the Student Rugby League Varsity Match at Richmond on 9 March. "Russell took some persuading, because he didn't want to take someone else's appointment," said the Student Rugby League's director, Neil Wood, "But we convinced him that he would only help the profile of the game."

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### Yates fears another long ban after citing by Wasps PC Package

finding it impossible to escape the poison.

Kevin Yates, the international prop from Bath who was notori- meanours, another six-month ously found guilty of biting an opponent's ear last season, has been cited by the Wasps management for alleged headstamping during Sunday's Premiership match at Loffus Road. The irony was almost too bitter for words; yesterday's announcement came exactly a year after lates saw an exciting future all but devastated by a sixinonth ban from the Rugby Football Union's disciplinary tribunal.

He must now contemplate a second ordeal before the hanging judges of Twickenham, thanks to a piece video footage that, according to Wasps, shows haim connecting with the head of Paul Volley, the Londoners' open side flanker. Volley needed seven stitches in the resultant wound and given the relevant disciplinary anteredents, Yates can expect another lengthy career break if the verdict goes against him. Stamping usually carries a 12-week penalty, but as a "head job" is considered one of rugby's more serious misde-

pion. Michelle de Bruin has

seized on the supposed fallibil-

ity of urine test methods alleged

by a chemist acting for the shot-

utter Paul Edwards to support

her challenge to a four-year

ban imposed last year, writes

Alan Murdoch from Dublin.

De Bruin's solicitor will use

the video of a demonstration of

how a sample container seal

could be opened and resealed

without detection in the swim-

May to the Court for Arbitration

banned for four years last

De Bruin (nee Smith) was

#### BY CHRIS HEWETT

sentence cannot be ruled out. Neither Yates nor Andy Robinson, the Bath coach, would comment yesterday, but this new affair came as a severe smack between the eyes to both men. It is conceivable that Yates, reportedly considering a move to New Zealand provincial rugby when his contract expires in May, has played his last game for the ailing West Country club. Robinson, meanwhile, has enough on his plate as a result of the 35-0 humiliation at Wasps, without new allegations of thug-

gery by one of his players. Yates' reputation went into free-fall in January last year when he was accused of biting Simon Fenn, the London Scottish flanker, during a Tetley's Bitter Cup tie at the Recreation Ground; Fenn needed 25 stitches and later went public at a press conference swathed in bandages. Yates protested his innocence - he has never wavered from that stance - and spent a small fortune on legal repre-

DRUGS IN SPORT

a sample analysed by its ap-

proved laboratory in Barcelona

had been manipulated by the

swimmer, but was unable to say

three golds at the Atlanta

Olympics, bas been under con-

stant scrutiny since another

shot-putter with his own history

of drug-test controversy, ber

husband Eric de Bruin, took

results. He was himself once

suspended for alleged use of a

Asked if the Edwards' dis-

The Irish athlete, who won

how this was done.

banned substance

mer's appeal in Lausanne on 3 over her coaching with striking

RUGBY UNION

Bath must be sick of disciplinary problems. Two of their other international forwards, Ben Sturnham and Victor Ubogu, were summoned to answer sending-off charges this season, though both were acquitted. Talking of internationals,

Clive Woodward gave the clearest hint yet that Joel Stransky might be considered for England World Cup duty when the tournament kicks off in October. Stransky is no Englishman, of course; as South African as biltong, the outside-half from Pietermaritzburg kicked the Springboks to the Webb Ellis Cup four years ago. But he qualifies for England in September under the three-year residency rule he has been playing for Leicester since 1996 - and the national coach yesterday said that if his form justified inclusion this au-

tumn, then included he would be. "If he genuinely turns out to be better than the players we have, I would have no problem," said Woodward, who believes such an eventuality would be an indictment of England's player development programme. "Tve

she replied: "It certainly is. It

is something we had known about for some time, but we just

weren't unable to get the Versa

Paks [the Fina approved sam-

ple containers)... to prove this."

in taking ber sample was an older type which had proved very difficult to obtain. "Versa

Paks knew there was a problem

with it so they recalled all of this

type of canister. We had known

for some time that the Versa Paks could be tampered with

and re-sealed, and there would

be no visible evidence that they

The Edwards demonstra-

had been tampered with."

She said the container used

Support for De Bruin claims

sentation, but the RFU panel had lunch with Joel and there is no doubt that he'd love to play for the team. I'm looking at every game he plays. As a pro-fessional coach of a professional team, it's my job to pick the best available."

One big name definitely included in the national set-up is Dick Best, whose spectacular success with London Irish has earned him an honorary selector's role with the England A and Sevens squads. Best successfully coached the England Test team under the management of Geoff Cooke in the early 1990s, but failed to survive the appointment of Jack Rowell as head cook and bottlewasher in 1994.

It has been one of Best's constant beefs that the Rugby Football Union never had the courtesy to tell him be was sacked, but Woodward's outstanding management skills have obviously smoothed things over. The former career Harlequin is now a prime candidate to succeed Woodward as England coach at some point in the future, although he will face stern opposition from Gloucester's Richard Hill.

Squads, Digest, page 29

string and a knife by Edward's

De Bruin said: "We will be

getting a video of this and I

assume Peter Lennon, De

Bruin's solicitor] will be fol-

lowing this up. If it comes to a

full hearing, we will be bringing

the video and possibly Dr Brown with us."

In denying she was guilty of tampering with the sample, De

Bruin's legal team last August

focused on weaknesses in the

test containers, saying they

were liable to pop open if placed in boiling water, claiming her

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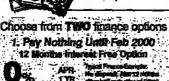
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August by swimming's gov covery, by chemist Dr David tion, in London on Tuesday, samples could have been tamerning body. Fina. It held that Brown, was a boost for her case, showed the container could be pered with at a later date.

is Time PLUS Scanner Freephone 0800 316 2 317 0800 771107

### Henderson is still keen on Sharpical

CHELTENHAM announced By GREG WOOD yesterday that the 50,000th and last ticket for Gold Cup day has now been sold, yet if the crowd is to have fighting-fit horses to overnight temperatures would be helpful.

The Festival week is marked off in red ink on every trainer's wall calendar from the first day of the season, but the period between the Tote Gold Trophy and the first weekend in March is almost as important, as the finishing touches are applied to six months of meticulous planning.

Trainers like Paul Nicholls could quickly find themselves with a dozen or more Festival candidates whose paths to Cheltenham could take an unwanted diversion.

Double Thriller, his Grand National favourite, was supposed to run in the Racing In Wessex Chase at icebound Wincantoo today, and will oow prepare for the Gold Cup instead io the Jim Ford Chase at the same course in two weeks'

Earthmover, another of Nicholls' Gold Cup team, will be on Saturday, which will be the re-routed to Newbury on Satbet on in five weeks' time, an urday having been frustrated at immediate rise in Britain's Chepstow yesterday, as his overnight temperatures would trainer tries desperately to get another two races into the chaser before Cheltenham.

No trainer places quite as much emphasis on these three days in March as Nick Hen-

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Done And Dusted (Lingfield 4.30) NB: Half Tone (Lingfield 3.00)

derson, who was either the leading or joint-best handler at the Festival in six of the nine years between 1987 and 1993. He drew a blank last year, and saddled only ooe winner - the last one, Barna Boy - the seasoo before that, but with leading contenders for both the Supreme Novice Hurdle and Triumph Hurdle, Heoderson's will still be one of the first

More immediately, Hender-needs everything to go his own son will send Sharpical to Newbury for the Tote Gold Trophy gelding's first outing since he won the same race last year. An injury soon afterwards rohbed him of a chance to face Istabrag in the Champion Hurdle, but that slightly dubious privilege could now come next month if his return to action proves acceptable.

"He's got a lot of talent and he's in the Champion, put it like that," Henderson said yesterday. "It's his first race of the season because I just haven't had time to get a race into him, but he's quite an easy borse to get ready. We'll just have to see what happens on Saturday."

Sbarpical's success 12 months ago was due in part to a magnificent ride by Mick Fitzgerald, who held his mount up far looger than many jockeys would have dared, before cantering past Kerawi with 100 yards to run.

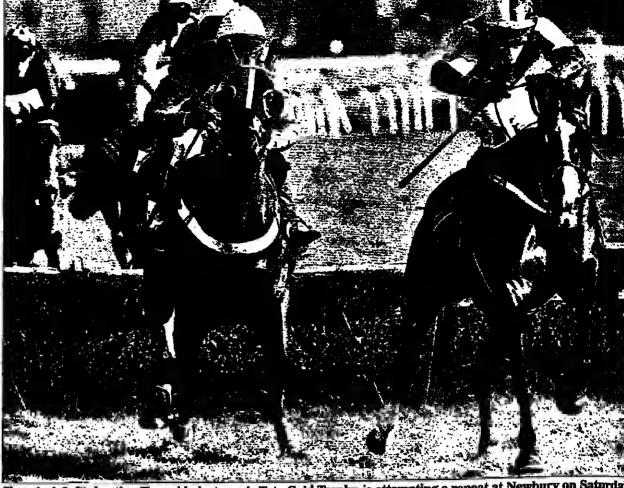
"It was one of the great rides," Henderson said. "We ride him with exaggerated tac-tics, but it's not the case that he minds until Friday," David

way. The Tote Gold Trophy has turned into the most extraordinary race, because threequarters of the horses are within 7lb of each other, from 11 stone 7 pounds to 12 stone, and the one thing it does is play into the hands of Tiutchev [the antepost favourite]." Both Hidebound and Katari-

no, Henderson's main hopes for Cheltenham, are reported to be in good form, although the weather may deny Katarino, who heads the market for the Triumph Hurdle, a run at Newbury on Friday.

"He coughed over Christmas but he's fine now and galloping away," Henderson said. "I think he'll almost certainly wait for either Huntingdon or Kempton the following week."

Tiutchev's task in Saturday's big race could become even more straightforward tomorrow, when Wahiba Sands. the second-favourite, may come out - along with the David Nicholsoo-trained Midnight



Sharpical (left), beating Kerawi in last year's Tote Gold Trophy, is attempting a repeat at Newbury on Saturday.

Johnson, Wahiba Sands' owner, said yesterday. "He was in the race on a racing weight but the horses at the top have all come out and I'm oot very happy

Yesterday saw the first full with both Ladbrokes and Coral day's trading on the Grand National following the publication of the weights, and Double Thriller was a predictably popular choice. The 12-1 on offer

yesterday morning had been cut to 9-1 by the evening.

opened, the seven-year-old was first cut to 14-1 and, when that failed to stem the flow of money,

#### Racing bitten by more frost

HOPES ROSE last night that Newbury's two-day fixture due to start tomorrow can go ahead after higher temperatures took weather. Saturday's cards at the frost out of the ground. Ayr, Haydock and Catterick Richard Osgood, a course await the same improvement. spokesman, said yesterday: Conrad Allen trained his first "The forecast is for a frost tonight and tomorrow, but for it to get warmer with cloud hampton yesterday. Allen said cover coming from the north. later: "After the favourite We are more confident than we Nadisha was withdrawn I were earlier in the week."

soft with soft patches on the I have the best hunch of horschase course.

for today was called off yester- year-olds and I'm hoping we'll day. But the feature event, the have a hit of fun this year." Premiera NH Auctioo Novice Conditional rider Shane Kelly several Cheltenham-hound days by the Jockey Club over prospects, is to be run on the his use of the whip. Six days of same track on 25 February.

inspection at 7.30 this morning. Hugo Beyan, the clerk of the course, said: "I'd have to say a two-month hreak today when than 50-50 at present."

Jump racing planned for tomorrow at Bangor-on-Dee depends on the arrival of milder winner of 1999 with 20-1 shot Crash Call Lady at Wolverthought she'd win and I backed The going is good to soft on her in forecasts with the rest of the hurdles track and good to the field." Allen added: "I think es I have ever had. We have got Wincanton's card scheduled 30 horses in all, with over 20 two-

Hurdle which had attracted was yesterday banned for 21the ban were deferred. Kelly Today's other jump fixture, must also attend an instruction at Huntingdon, is subject to an course at the British Racing School

■ Frankie Dettori returns from that prospects are no higher he rides Playacting for Saeed bin Suroor in Dubai.

#### HUNTER CHASE POINTERS

RESULTS

CHARING (8 Feb) Cracking Idea clocked the fastest time of the day in the Ladies Open. Never tar away, he led at the fifth last tence and surged clear to score by 20 lengths from Docs Dilemma.

COTTENHAM (7 Feb) The Auctioneer - no match for the useful Real Value last time - returned to winning formunith an impressive victory in the Intermediate Making all and storming clear three out, he wen by a distance from Ring Albert in easily the fastest time of the day.

WOLVERHAMPTON

Gong Standard

2.10 Jan 31 mc aan auch in maden stakes; 1. CRASH CALL LADY ... N Certiste 20-1 2. Order in Court .... A Mackey 20-1 3. Lucky Touch ... Martin Deyer 10-11 fav Also mar 7.2 Prince Consort, 5.1 Alocan-Jer (4th) 13-2 Superbob (5th) 20-1 Kare-

the (4th) Set Suppress pass, the Kate (5th) 7 han 0 C. 10 4, 9 (Winner Buy hilly by Untibuef out of Porth Lease manned by 6 Nicen at Newmark for Crash Call Ltd Tote, CCISC, ESSO, CSSO DF, CCIOC CSF CCISC Non Burner Nadeha

Porta Filipa (8th).

9 ran. 3 2 - 3 st.-list. 11 (Winner bay sections by Consump dut of Sunicy Sunor. 12 mod by J. Berty at Cacketham for Riccot And Totals Cart. 2 tto C150, 2140, DF 2220 CSF, 2666.

Also ran: 2-1 fax Lycon (5th), 3-1 Takhid (4th) 12-1 Get Of Gold (6th), 16-1 Arc 7 ran. 1., 21 , 114, 3, 6, (Winner bay horse

os Archesty out of Indan Send, trained by R. Hollestread at Upper Longdon for Ed Recemen Houlage & Storage Ltds Total

05.30; \$2.60 £250 DF, £2750 CSF- £58.67.

**THE INDEPENDENT** 

RACING SERVICES

0891 261 +

LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS

HUNTINGDON 972 982

ALL COURSES RESULTS

0891 261 970

9.73 983

FRIARS HAUGH (7 Feb) Faster Ron made all and jumped well in the Restricted. He forged clear over the last two fences to beat Hopies Delight by three lengths in a

Mountain Thyne was extremely impressive in Division Two of the Open Maiden. Settled in the middle of the field early on, he led two out and stayed on gamely to beat Ex-plore Mondial by four lengths in what appeared an exceptional time for a

6 ran, 111 2, 16, 3, 1. Winner bay gold-ing by Night Shift out of Letuche, trained by K Burko at Newmarket for Nigel Sheldst Tote: C4 40, 5130, 51to, 5430, DF, 5350, CSF; 51306.

4.40 (5) I so seling stakes)
1. SANO STORM — R Winston 3-1
2. Dispot Clan — R Winston 3-1
3. Doily Day Dreato — Martin Dwyer 7-1
Also ram: 5-2 lav Ladycake, 3-1 Gochmes,
5-1 Legal Vanture (4th), 11-1 Pasta (6th)
7 ram, Hd, shird, 2", 1 (Winnor chestmut
filly by Forest Wind out at Catton Beach,
trained by 8 Mechan at Lambourn for hemself). Tota: 1:339, 5460, 5190 DF, 5410;
CSF, 55511 NR: Michelas Mistress. The winner was sold for 4500 gamess.

FIRST SHOW

C H L S 1

51 61 132 112 61

LINGFIELD 3.00

Riso 14 States 13-3 7-2 3-1 7-2 10-3

Half Time 103 31 41 103 72

Squire Cords 9-2 7-2 3: 41 41

Homelifie Grange 92 11-2 51 11-2 92

Dancing Jack 6-1 6-1 7-1 5-1 6-1

ionveniy Miss 12:1 14:1 13:1 13:1 13:1

Extrem against the oats place 1.2

C Coral, H William Hill L Lachscheis, S Station 7 San

5.10. ¡Ti 3yo handicapi

#### LINGFIELD

**HYPERION** 3.30 Kind Sir

2.00 Bigwig 2.30 KEEPSAKE (nap) 3.00 Bowcliffe Grange

4.00 Bluewater Bay (nb) 4.30 Done And Dusted

GOING: Standard STALLs: 5f & fm outside; remeinder inside
DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best up to fm, especially for 6L.

Equitack surface; left-hand, sharp undutating course.

Course is SE of town on 82028, Lingfield station (served by London, Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: One enclosure St. CAR PARKS (cub 23: remeinder free,
FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: G L Moore 88-683 (133%), M Johnston 49-275 (178%), R
Hannon 49-376 (15%), Miase G Kafleway 44-318 (138%), B Dow 36-409 (88%),
LEADING JOCKEYS: A Clerk 77-806 (12.7%), J Weaver 69-307 (22.1%), B Senders
55-563 (11.5%), S Whitworth 55-382 (14%), R Cocturane 54-342 (15.8%),
EAVOURTIES: 728-263 (33.7%),
LONG OISTANCE RUNNERS: Bruff Stream (3.30) travels 270 miles.
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Tazkiya (2.30).

1	DO DE DEL	POSE AMATE	ID RIDERS	HANDICAD	/CI ASS	-
	2.00	ROSE AMATE 00 added 1m 5f	Penalty Val	ue £2,722	COLLON	`

1	20-360	PHILOSOPHIC (2) (CD) (Gelegher Equine Ltd) Mrs L. Jewell 9 11 7 Mr P O'Keeffe (5) 3
!	0000067	THE FRENCH FURZE (1257) (BF) (Jim Ennis) A POSTOCK 5 10 12 Mas C Pascock (5) 5
ĺ	634-04	TIME CAN TELL (22) (CD) (A C W Price) A Jurkes 5 to 7Mr A Evens (3) 1
,	0000-6	DENTARDIA (23) (Charles Curtle) J Eustace 4 10 3
,	343610	EVEZIO RUFO (13) (CD) (O A Gunter) N Litimoden 7 8 11
,	00025-	PREMIER LEAGUE (43) (Harkander Partnership) K C-Brown 9 8 10 Mr V Lukaniuk (3) 10
•		FOURDANED (14) (N A Bedward) B Johnson 8 8 8
1	565-5	NOSEY NATIVE (33) (Mrs Lydia Peerce) J Peerce 8 9 5
	002-00	KPOLO (5) (Miss Julie Reeves) B. Johnson 4 9 4
0	00-000	GREEN JACKET (9) (Jack Joseph) R O'Sullivan 493
1	0300-0	SOVIET LADY (9) (Gerry Boyer) R Ingram 5.8 3
2		BIGWIG (9) (Mrs Etzabéth Kiernari) G L Moore 8 9 3

Minimum weight; Set 3ft. True handicap weighte; Green Judiet Bat 13th, Soviet Lady Sat 10th, Bigwig Bat 5th BETTREC; 3-1 Propiete Langua, 4-1 Philosophic, 9-2 Thme Can Tell, 5-1 Desclo Rufe, 8-1 Nousy Nethre, Bigwig, Denterdia, 10-1 Soviet Lady, 12-1 Fourchmed, Kpolo, The French, Fuzze, 14-1 Green Jackel 1996 'Palssander 4 10 2 Mr R Guest 63 8-1 (S Dow) dizem (12) 10 ren. FORM GUIDE FORM GUIDE

Philosophie: Four-times course winter and off same mark as when scoring in August. Below form but will find this easier after his 7th to Hank have (2m) on Tuesday The French Furter Ex-hish performer who failed to sustain good early hurdles ability when with Martin Pipe. Without action since pulling up at Stratford in May Time Can Tell: Won claimer over course and distance jest year but modest in two runs lest morth; the latest when 4th to Abuljiood in Calmer at Wolverhampton (1m4) Dentardia: Maiden and S-length 7and to Cut Obernovi at Musselkurgh (intif) last year. No show in amaseurs' race here in October but takes a drop in class after the latest 6th to Bank On Him over storter trip (1m2). Everalo Ruto: Has won here along with two whis spiece at Southwell and Wolverhampton. Poor stowing with today's amaseur at Southwell last time (1th to Vincent) but previously beat finamous and Hilbrah in seller at Wolverhampton. Poor stowing with today's amaseur at Southwell last time (1th to Vincent) but previously beat finamous and Hilbrah in seller at Wolverhampton. Premier League: Dual winner at Windsor last year (once for an amateur) and best Equitrack run when 2m do Bon Guest in claimer frond 2m too for last time and obvious chance off a favourable handcap mark. Fourdanad: No win fron 29 attempts but has shaped with some promise with today's partner on the course, notably a 4th to Failed To Hit and 5th to Caemarion Bay. Nosey Native: Has elipped down the handcap but still to win on AW. Seems best at this sort of Imp but only 3rd in this race last year.

Kpolo: Chased home Noukan at Southwell in November but two subsequent runs have offered tritle, the latest in a seller here behind Muhandis Green Jacket: Has chown little on latest runs with loday's partner. May do better now he gets a longer trip. 4th out of handicap sorter better the surface for a different stable last year. Can reprove on recent showing behind Orsay in claimer here Bigging: Dual wirming hurder and twice recently out of the handicap prope

VERDICT: allGWIG is a meader on the Flat but has won for an amateur over hunder. In the Flat but has won for an amateur over hunder. In Mongan, his partner, has been booting home without for Gary Moore and Bigwig may supply him with another. Soviet Lady may benefit by the change of scenary and her net partnered the winner of this race last year. Evergio Ruto did nothing with an amateur list time and more of a threat are Premier Leegue and Philicapphilo.

2 201 JULIET SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G) 52 500 added

ı	2	.30	2m Penalty Value £1,883
ı	1		ALBEMENE (USA) [15] (A C W Prost) A Juckes 10 100
Į	2	-03421	KATIE'S CRACKER (5) (C) (Mrs 5 G Davies) M Quant 4 8 3 (Box) J P Spencer (3) 10
ľ	3	50-44	CRY FOR PREEDOM (14 (Aichael C Whatev) J Penns 4 9 1
ı	4	503.0	CAPTAIN MARIMALADE (17th) (CD) (Mrs Alson Thorn) D Thorn 10 R 11 N Calling 65 1 V
ı	5	5021.30	CHINA MAIL (10) (17) Methy Syndicals M Chart 7 8 8 Emily Innes 23 8
ı	6	uco-cu	SUPER-GEM OR (Mrs J R Barriorin) J Vibrownick 4 R 8 G Revised 14
ı	•	نتا تحد	Market Street St
l	8	2000-5	SHANUAL [3] IN HOWER S WOODING 7 B B P Fernan 4
ı	3	OC-050	TAZKIYA (14) Lioth Fitzsinons) R Moram 4 8 8
ı	10	യാ	NOTHING DOING (14) (Struction Bloodstock) W Museum 20 ft 5
ı	77	<b>C40-6</b>	DADDY'S POLLY (28) (Madoworth Spooler Club PT) 8   Image 5 8 4   D January 49
l	2	0605	ADTLOV (14) (T Mitchell & Mrs H Veal) J Bridger 7.8.2
i		00-000	HUPPIT (b) IP A & M J Heath P Howard 4 7 10 A Nicholia #6 3
ľ	14	30 <del>-60</del>	THE SILK THEEF (38) (Mrs M A Bateley) J. Junions 4 7 10M Builed (3) 9 V
ı			44 Austrand

— 14 declared —

— 14 declared —

Microurus wegit: 1st (ICD: True handicap wegits: Hoppit 7st 9th, The Silt: Thief 7st 9th

BETTING: 7-8 Nation Cracker, 4-1 Cry For Freedom, 5-1 Tazdya, 8-1 Declay's Polly, 8-1 Shenuke,

10-1 Addice, Keepeeke, 13-1 Nothing Dates, 14-1 Albemine, 16-1 Captain Marmalade, 20-1 others

1998 Cossignators Hero 5 8 5 J Marshal 3-1 tor (Al Ustrer) drawn (i) 9 ran

#### FORM GUIDE

Albemine: Winning hurder, but still a maiden on the Flat. All 3 outings on the AW have been at Wolverhampton and runs off a 13to lower mark than when 5th of 12 to Grovefair Lad over 12! there last seeson

Grovefair Led over 121 there last seeson Katle's Cracker: Won here (InSI) lest week and runs off a 6th higher mark, Stays tarther (3rd over course and distance last month) and has the beating of Cry For Freedom, Adian, Tazdiya and Nothing Doing on recent form Cry For Freedom: Stamina doubt and tries 2m for the first time. Weakaned 2f out when 4th to Katles Cracker here (InSI) last month and has a 12th pull for 15 lengths Captain Marmalade: Well handicapped on his old Flat form, but has not won for nearly 3 years. Pulled up in 27km setting hundle at Leicester in December and first rans since. China Mail: Winner over hurdles, despite looking ungenuine. Maiden on Flat after 14

China Mail: Winner over hundles, despite looking ungeruine. Maiden on Flat efter 14 putings and tailed off test 2 runs, including over course and distance lest month when lest of 10 (Tazkiya Shl) to Red Reja Super-Gem: Maiden handicapper and first run in a seller. No show in 4 outings on turf last season at distances up to 10f for David Cosgrave, Weakened over 1f out when 7th of 11 to Half Tide here (12f) last week and unifiely to stay 2m Keepseles: Now 22fb lower than when recording her only success from 32 outings at Salsbury in 1977. Better effort on AW here (tim5f) last week when 3rd to Muhandis with Shanuke (only 11b better of) 13 longitrs in 5th Shanuke (only 11b better of) 13 longitrs in 5th Shanuke (only 11b better are since October when 5th to Muhandis here (tim5f) last week 13 lengths behind Kaepseles (3rd). Runner-up over hurdles in October, so should stay 2m.

should stay 2m Tazkiym: Meiden selling handicapper, Lost place after 5f when 11th of 16 to Muhan-dis here (Im5f) last month with Kables Cracker 2nd, Cry For Freedom 4th, and Adilov 5th, 9th lower than when 5th to Fied Raja over course and distance before that, so Outside chance in first bine binkers Nothing Doing: Successful 4 times on turl though has not won since 1997, but of fittle account on AW. Now 7th lower than when 12th of 14 to Muhandis here (Imist)

Deddy's Polly: Ex-Irish maiden handicapper, First run for new yard when 6th of 11 Deddy's Polly; Ex-insh maderi handcapper, First fun for new yard when our or in to Spick And Spen over course and distance lest month and tolib better off for 17th lengths with Katels Cracker (3rd), Prospects if attracting market support. AdBoyr Inconsiglant writing hurdler, but still a maldon on the Flat dribr 19 outings. Beaten over 4f out when 5th to Muhandis here (#m5f) lest month and only 10th better off for 17th lengths with Katels Cracker (2nd). Hoppit: Has failed to make the frame in 10 outings on turf and AW, Never going was the product of the product of the frame in 10 outings on turf and AW, Never going was an addition of the product of the frame in 10 outings on turf and AW. Never going was

and soon driven along when 12th of 14 (besten 54 lengths) to Zaha in a mit tion at Southwell (1m3f) lest week

The Stilk Thief: No show in 2 runs on harf last sees both outings on AW when tried in a visor and looks unlikely to stay this trip VERDICT: Most of these have shown little in the way of form and many of those that have seem pest their best with the exception of KATTE'S CRACKER. She stays two miles and kept on well in the closing stages when winning a similar event over a shorter trip here last week. Her 6th penalty is partially cancelled out by useful claimer

#### 3.00 CASANOVA HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,500 added 5f

_		reliaity vinde 12,000
	03-501	SQUIRE CORREC(7) (CD) (J M Chepman) D Chapman 7 103 (dex)
ž	-43213	HALF TONE (7) (CD) (BF) (Mrs G M Terrmerman) R Plower 7 to 0 Dane O'Nell 4 B
3	03-221	SOTOMAN (HOL) (15) (D) (Tim Dean) P Feigne 8 9 12
		HEAVENLY MISS (14) (CD) (Trever Mitchell) J Bridger 5 B 4
,		RISE TH SHINE (7) (CD) (R M Cyzer) C Cyzer 5 B 11
1		BOWCLETE GRANGE (15) (D) (Dend W Chapman) D Chapman 78 10
		DANCING JACK (19) (CD) Dirs J M Stamp) J Bridger 8 8 3

BETTING: 7-2 Half Tone, Rise in Staine, Squire Corrie, 5-1 Bowcliffe Grange, 6-1 Sotonian, 7-1 Danc-1998: Flise N Shine 4 8 5 R Ffrench 10-3 (C Cyzer) drawd (1) 10 ram FORM GUIDE

Squire Corrie: Burst clear from stalls and lept up gallop to beat Filse in Shine and Half Tone over course and distance last week. Has rattled off sequence in the past and still on lentent mark with 6th penalty (he won of Haif Tone: Usually comes late after getting outpaced and was 10 lengths adult on home band when a fast-finishing 3rd to Squire Come here last week. 6to better off today and previously pipped Dancing Jack over course and distance Southers: Mainly rises at Wolverhampton and gained 4th win there a fortnight ago when beating 58k Cottage. Stiff task off 6b higher mark on faster surface when beating 58k Cottage. Stiff task off 6b higher mark on faster surface when pained over two years ago (claimer over course and distance) and probably not good enough in this handicap after latest 2-length 2nd to

Palacegate Touch in 6t claims here
Rise in Shine: Winner of this race last year [only success) and 1 lb lower today, improved on course and distance efforts to chase home Squire Comie last week so every hope with a 6th pull for just over a length beating
Bowcifffe Grange: A short-runner who led for 3t when 6th to Sotunian at Wolver-tempton a torthight ago (first run since August). 11 lb lower since last success at Doncaster over two years ago. Stablemate of Squire Come
Dancing Jack: Without a win for over three years but 2nd when caught dose home
by Half Tone over course and distance last month. 2b better off for neck beating
VERDICCT: Sources CORDITE conditions.

VERIDICT: SQUIRE CORRIE can dety the penalty and thus confirm last week's form with Rise in Shihre and half Tone. He notched two quick wine in February in 1997 and this pacey type mey again have his rivats in early trouble. The 6th put gives Rise in Shihre a time chance and she won this corresponding race 12 months ago Rise in Shine a tine chance and she won this corresponding race 12 months agriftom the same No. 1 stall, while Half Tone can be expected to produce his custom any late burst and he also meets Squire Corrie 6th better compared to last week.

But a more significant move was possibly that for Eudipe. the odds were dropped further trained by Martin Pipe. A 20-1 to 12-1.

chance when Coral's doors

### 3.30 SAY IT WITH ROSES MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) 25,250 added 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,539

FORM GUIDE FOHAR GUILDE:
Bruff Stream: Showed promise first 2 outings over Bl/f at Wolverhampton last month, but appeared not to stay 12f when 9th of 12 here last week. This trip is more suitable Hitternate: Showed ability over hundles for Howard Johnson and first run on AW for new yard. Third in Goodwood (Im, good to firm) residen on only start for Roger Charlton as a 2yo
Approachable: AW debut and finished behind Beajil (5th) when 12th of 18 at Leicester (7t, good to soft) in October. Billniered in 2 of his 3 runs for John Gooden and its second or pickity.

ter (r.1, good to sort) in October. Benietre in 2 to resist runs for Julian Gooden and her the eight of ability. Benjilt: Sold for 7,000gns lest summer after one run for Luca Curnani es a 2yo. Runner-up twice over course and distance recently, but beaten 10 lengths when 2nd to Kennet here lest week. Kind Shr. Cost 65,000gns as a yearing, Showed promise on both outings as a 2yo over in on turt. Gave the impression that he would be suited by forther and stable on of teature regularly on the AW. Misrothet, Unraced Generous colt out of Rembow Quest mare, From stable that does not be the force the AW. Misrothet, Unraced Generous colt out of Rembow Quest mare, From stable that does not be a first that the second of the configuration.

not have many numbers on the AW. Will not have to be anything out of the ordinary VERDICT: This is fleely to take a bit more winning than the usual maiden on the all-weather with Paul Cole (Misrchief) and Barry Hills (KIND SIRI) in opposition. The latter is eightly prefered as he has the benefit of experience and looked as if he would benefit from a longer trop when staying on well in the closing stages to finish severath on his debut over a mile at Kempton in September.

#### 4.00 ROMEO MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F)

.00	£2,750 added 3YO filles 7f Penalty Value £1,970
5-3	BLUEWATER BAY (15) (Kai Tak Racke) J Eustace 8 11
	COMPTON AKKA (12) (E Penser) () A Butter 6 11
Q-	DOCKLANDS MERC (200) (Mrs Lisa Olley) R Philips 6 11
	GOLCONDA (138) (Inniew Racing) M Bell 6 11
	MURINITY NOSE BEST (283) (The Filies Fanciers) V Scane 8 1/
	TICK N PICK (86) (8 Scott) B Johnson 8 11

FORM GUIDE Bluewater Bay: Lugana Beach filly who led when a 6-length 3rd to hotpot Prince Prospect on debut here (6) and kept on to finish a creditable 3rd to older rivals Dryad and Love Opera at Wolverhampton (6). Today's extra furlong may suit Compton Akka: Disappointing after promise on turt. Reverts to a malden after hand-toap seconds to well treated Royal Preview and Bratby on this course. Obvious chance on the book

on the book
Docklands Merc: Trained by Nigel Tinder when 25-1 and last of tan to Damalis in
Chester maiden last May (unsested rider before start)
Golcondis, Makes, ast-wester debut after September runs at Sandown (3rd to La
Paola) and Ascot (ast of 8 to Subito over this trip). Has to be respected in this grade
Mumany Mose Best: Showed glimmer of ability back in May on only start when 7th
of 17 to Evenny at Warwick (5f). Bred to appreciate this longer trip
Tick N Picts Moderate type on AW since her 5th of 14 to Pagen King at Brighton
(7f). Well hald in Southwell nursery and latest 7th to Flying Officer here (8f) VERDICT: BLUEWATER BAY had a taste of this surface on her debut and the subsequent showing at Wolverhampton suggested this severith furforing was wanted. She looks a better proposition than Compton Aldra, but Jumes Eustace's tilly te no certainty with Michael Bell giving a first chance on the all-weather to Lahibs daughter Golconde, who took in races at Sandown and Ascot at two.

4.30 SEALED WITH A LOVING KISS HANDICAP (CLASS E) \$3,500 added 3YO 1m Penalty Value \$2,571

FORM GUIDE

Royal Preview: Unlucky not to complete a four-timer over 8t here on Tuesday, Soon led after missing the break only to be caught on the post. 18to higher them when winning over 7t here lest month, but sure to go close

Done And Dusted: Found 6t too short when 6th to Royal Preview at Southwell lest month and 8to better in for 3 longths. On a 6to higher mark after winning over 7t here last week

last week
Drazar On Ma: Led halfway, but headed 2f out when 8th to Royal Preview here (7f)
less month, 21b better off for 10<sup>1</sup>/- lengths and should be suited by this return to 1m
after being outpaced over 81 here last time
Matchille. Has won once from 19 outings, but quite consistent on the AM. Tried over
10f when 3rd here last month, though probably at his beet over this trip

VERDICT: ROYAL PREVIEW has been reased 18th since her first success at Ung-field lest month and makes a quick reappearance after being buched off in the lest stride over six furlongs here on Tuesday, Her landancy to miss the break makes her a micky ride, but she will have more time to recover the lost ground over the longer trip. She should stay a mile as her half-eight Living Image won over 10 furlongs.

#### 3.20 FARCET FEN HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 25,500 added 2m 4f 110yds 2.20 PAUL DAVEY 40TH BIRTHDAY NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (D) £5.500 added 3m

#### HUNTINGDON

HYPERION 1.50 Brancepeth Belle 2.20 Norlandic 2.50 Rio's King 3.20 Ferrers 3.50 Dark Kestrel 4.20 Ballyallia Castle 4.50 Sunley Secure

INSPECTION 7.30gm

GOING: Soft Right-hand, level course. Run-in 200yds. ■ Course & at junction of A1 and A804, Huntingdon station (se woo from London, King's Cross) Im, ADMISSION: Members 213; Pacticos 213 (OAP members of Diamond Club, and Students, heli-price). Course 25. CAR PARK: Free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRANSERS: K Balley 18-89 (20.2%), G Hubbard 18-80 (21.3%), Mrs M Revelop 18-40 (27.7%), J Gifford 14-75 (18.7%), Mrs Managody 21-81 (25.9%), M A Fizzger and 17-89 (20.1%), P Hide 15-64 (23.4%), N Williamson 14-77 (18.2%). FAVOURITES: 237-536 (442%).
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Renardine Boy (220).

1.50 GLATTON CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,500 added 2m 110yds G- GEORDIE LAD (F392) M Brackhold 5 11 10....R Studioline (5)

- 12 declared -BETTING: 6-4 Rusis, 11-4 Brandson Way, 5-1 Brancepath Belle, 7-1 Break The Rules, 14-1 Mond Court, 18-1 Lotty Deed, 20-1 Anotherone To Note,

FORM VERDICT As it remains to be seen if Brambles Way and Break The Rules have retained their ability for their new connectors RUSK. who is running consistently well, looks a safer bet.

— 17 declared —
Minutum weight: 10ct. Title handloap weighter. Rochartere 9st 13tb, Hydro 9st 5tb, Ouf Lany Andy 8st 5tb, for The Van 9st 5tb, Lang Whang 8st 7tb.
SETTING: 7-2 Sangu Jet, 5-1 Monicaterum, 11-2 Montendic, 7-1 total Joy, 10-1 Royal Tommy, Foreshore Man, Warfield Lad, Wren Warbies, 12-1 others

FORM VERDICT PUMM YEMPICE

NORLANDIC males appear Philip Hobbs has wasted no time in putting him over tences, even though he appeared to be on the upgrade over hurdes after his tatest win. The consistent Santa Jet is a firrest, while Royal Tommy, Renerding Boy and even Warfield Laid are worth a look in the market.

2.50 SIDNEY BANKS MEMORIAL NOVICE HURDLE (B) £10,000 2m 4f 110yds 

Bosums Mate and Rio's King are expected to head the mar-lett and with the latter looking suspect under pressure at New-bury last time, the former is preferred However, NATIVE KINGS Sandown with marked him down as a horse of potential, it his stamina lasts out over this longer trip

Player Set 3th

1-UPT: CARDINAL RULE (28) (D) Mass V Williams 10 12 O.N WILLIAM - 10 deci Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Take My Side 9st 13th, Stage

Proper par uso BETTING: 3-1 Cardinal Rule, 4-1 Harldecent, 5-1 Place Lord, Ferrers, 6-1 Sierra Bay, 6-1 Haweillen Youth, 12-1 Frys No Fool, 18-1 others FORM VERDICT PEACE LORD has the makings of a decent handicap chaser and could still have a few pounds in hand of the assessor under these ideal conditions. Cardinal Rule should also go

3.50 TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) 58,000 added 2m 5f 110yds

FORM VERDICT An open race. A 5b rise may not be enough to prevent \$522E
THE DAY from following up his comfortable success at Wincanton, where, after being hampered, he was value for more
than the official verbot. He can confirm his superiority over
Sunnise Special and may have more to fear from Se Brave
and Amillionmemories.

4.20 DUCK'S CROSS NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £1,750 added 3m

RED REBEL and Guiting Gray are the two to concentrate on Guiting Gray is from a top point-to-point yard and is much respected despite having only run once under Rules in the best part of three years, but marginal preference is for the up-and-coming Red Rebet, who has youth on his side.

4.50 LONG STANTON HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 110yds

(CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m Titytos

1 42-56 CLASSIC EAGLE (47) (CD) Mrs O Haine 6 11 11 ... G Bradley

2 42764 NESSIN DORO (23) (D) S Meltor 7 11 10 ... C Webb

4 2041 SUMLEY SECURE (422) (D) H Cremce 8 10 7 ... J Contourne

5 PAGO TUKANO (CAN) (442) (D) J Jamkins 8 10 7 ... M Schiedes 69

4 405-73 Reist G F VISION (F13) (D) J J Own 7 10 6 ... L Wyer

4 401-46 JANGENNYNE (26) (D) Mrs M Jones 5 10 ... A Bleguin

7 431-46 JANGENNYNE (26) (D) Mrs M Jones 5 10 ... A Bleguin

7 declared 
Minimum weight 10st True handicap weight Jerghynyne 9 49b,

BETTING: 5-2 Classic Engle, 11-4 Nessum Doro, 4-1 Ring Or Vision, 8-1

Hal Hoo Verdons, 7-1 Stanley Secture, 12-1 Tutomo, 25-1 Janglynyne.

FORM VERDICT

FORM VERDICT

Can prove a potent weapon in this areal field. Neason Done
has been in good term, but is high enough in the weights now.

Nost Chance had an all-weather winner yesterday and Somley Secure would be interesting if fit and tended for this return to action. FORM VERDICT

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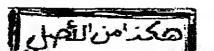
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First one-day final: Australian leg-spinner's verbal jibe provokes Hussain and sparks dramatic collapse

### Warne psyches out England

By Stephen Brenkley in Sydney

Australia 232-8 England 222 Australia win by 10 runs

MAYBE IT was Australia's idea of one last cruel joke to belittle the Poms at the end of a long. long winter It was a beauty There England were in the first final of the Carlton & United Series needing 35 runs off seven overs with six wickets in hand. It was a position for which the term sitting pretty could have been coined.

Twenty-two balls later, England had reduced the target by six. Unfortunately, they had also lost five of their remaining wickets and the match was effectively over. It had turned distinctly ugly. Australia, who must have taken their time only because they were laughing till they were fit to burst, eventually won by 10 runs with four balls to spare.

England, running on desperation, did not play well in that short period. Australia, fuelled by self-belief, played extremely well. This was the punchline. The jape had been set up a few overs earlier.

Nasser Hussain and Vince Wells, a man exhibiting calm maturity and surely cementing his place in the World Cup, had taken control of the game. For Hussain it had been a struggle. He had been responsible for the run-out of Graeme Hick, he had heen in poor touch but he had battled his way through.

When at last he played a slog-cum-sweep against Shane Warne it seemed the shackles had come loose, But, as Warne evealed later, he seized the moment to tighten them. You're allowed to get one out of 20," he snarled at Hussain, and then immediately broke into that cheesy grin of his. Hussain did not smile. He was offended.

When Warne came back in the 43rd over it was the last shake of the dice. He needed wickets but England were so close they were touching victory. Hussain and Wells simply had to nudge it about. Instead. Hussain decided to advance down the pitch and make room to hit on the off side by opening the face and show Warne what he was made of.

sensible as backing a non-runner in a one-horse race. It rate. He took on the responsiturned past the bat, Hussain was stranded and Adam Gilchrist took off the bails at his leisure. iHe had made 58 in 98 balls, the sort of pace which meant he had to finish the job. "I was trying to get up his nose a little bit," Warne said. "I do anything to try and get a wicket."

Still, there was no need to panic, at least not until the next on to it.



Shane Warne shows his delight as Nasser Hussain dejectedly walks back to the dressing rooms after his dismissal in yesterday's one-day final in Sydney

ball. Adam Hollioake swept. Perhaps this was a piece of ill judgement but it was matched by the umpire, Steve Davis. The ball appeared to pitch outside leg stump but he raised his finger in answer to Warne's

Two wickets in two balls was bad enough but, just as im-Hussain had played a maiden As a gamble it was about as over by striking six off the first hall of the next to sustain the bility again by driving Shane Lee straight. Up in the air went the ball. It seemed to be soaring towards the sight screen but running round from long off was Brendon Julian. With his giant loping strides be made 15, 20, 25, 30 yards and suddenly he was able to stretch for his heart's desire and hold

Panic entered England's ures of his short international game now and so did Glenn McGrath. The great fast bowler was not about to spurn this opportunity. He quickly had Mark Ealham caught behind fencing and then took Darren Gough's off stump. How all of England should have felt for their own big-hearted fast bowler then. portantly, the runs had dried Ten minutes earlier he must England's rescue once after dressing-room thinking of making it 2-0 at Melbourne and home by Sunday, McGrath it was who polished it off by sending Alan Mullally's middle pole

tumbling in the final over Australia might have been satisfied with their score but they were prohably unsure that it was enough. England kept at them. Gough, used inthree spells was as Trojan as ever and Wells was commendthree wickets and the best fig- art hit them all for four. The

career. He has spent a long apprenticeship on the county circuit and some eyebrows were not so much raised as in full flight when he was picked for this party. He has singed them.

Michael Bevan, the socalled best finisher in the oneday game, was there at the finish of Australia's innings. He up. Wells had already come to have had his feet up in the never seemed to be in a hurry even when he was running the fastest singles around but he made 69 off 74 balls. England and Alec Stewart

started in a flurry. Stewart had been asked many times in the past week how he intended to deal with Adam Dale and had not said much in reply. When he flicked him for six in the bowler's second over he appeared to have an answer. In the fifth over of the innings able. His line was tight, his McGrath pitched four suclength more so. It hrought him cessive balls short and Stew-

second almost took Bevan's thumb off at midwicket. The dislocation it actually caused will force him to miss the rest of the series. Stewart then prodded Dale

to short midwicket and, unsure that it had carried to Mark Waugh, waited for the verdict. Nick Knight again got out, bowied playing round a

played with control. It did not seem to matter that Hussain was out of sorts. But then Hussain jabbed to point, called for a single and then sent Hick back. Ricky Ponting was as unerring as usual as he threw down the stumps at the bowler's end.

Hussain might have thought his day could not become worse. It was only just beginning. Australia will still be

SYDNEY SCOREBOARD ills, 2 fours t c Waugh b Da balls, 4 fours, 1 3 mins, 30 balls, 3 fours straight one, when he knows he should have gone on.

But Hick came in and level with control 14 did not 

#### Ranatunga turns his back on Australia

BY BRIAN CRAWFORD in Columbo

THE SRI LANKA captain, Arjuna Ranatunga, has said he is unlikely to play in Australia again following the controversial tour during which he received a six-match suspended ban after leading his team off the field.

"The 1995-96 [tour of Aus tralial and this tour are the most forgettable..." Ranatunga was quoted as saying by The Island newspaper yesterday after the team's return from Australia. "I don't think I will go back to Australia to play cricket. I don't want to lose a couple of years of my life."

During the tour the Sri Lanka spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was controversially called by the Australian umpire Ross Emerson for throwing during a limitedovers match, against England in Adelaide, on 23 January. Ranatunga led his players off the field in protest at the decision, eventually earning himself a suspended six-game ban from the International Cricket

The Island quoted Ranatunga as saying he had no regrets over the incident and denying he had lost his cool after Emerson, who had also called Muralitharan for throwing during Sri Lanka's 1995-96 tour to Australia, faulted him again. "Whether I like it or not, it's finished. I can't do anything about it," Ranatunga was quoted as saying. "I stood by one of my

players. It's as simple as that." Ranatunga lambasted the Australian crowds for their bad behaviour and constant jeering of Muralitharan, and said spectators around the Indian subcontinent were much better.

"Australia and England. whenever they tour the Indian subcontinent, complain about unruly crowd behaviour there. I must say the conduct of Indian and Pakistani crowds is a thousand times better than that of the Australian crowds," he said.

"The way they treated a bowler who has taken 200 Test wickets was disgusting and proves there are more civilised people in India and Pakistan."

When asked whether Sri Lankan crowds should behave similarly when Australia tour the Indian Ocean island later this year. Ranatunga said: "Just because a dog bites the man, the man should not bite the dog."

Sri Lanka had a disastrous tour of Australia, where they won only three of their 10 matches in the limited-overs tournament involving themselves, the hosts and England.

#### Loye's century leaves England in control

three wickets in the space of 14 in Bulawayo halls as Zimbabwe slipped to 94 for 4 by the end of the second day of the second "Test" here vesterday.

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and Andy Flintoff and Steve Harmison grabbed a wicket apiece as the tourists took conident steps towards defending eir first innings total of 383. Mal Loye added II to his wernight score before falling bw to Andy Whittall for 133. His plendid innings - which lasted just over six hours, came off 195 balls and included 19 oundaries - took in an 81-run

i for the fifth wicket. But after Loye bowed out, iraeme Swann came in to aise the tempo. His second

partnership with Vikram Solan-

THE ENGLAND A bowlers took By MARK HARGREAVES

England A 383 Zimbabwe A 94-4

scoring shot was a six lifted Dean Cosker struck twice. over midwicket off the bowling of Bryan Strang. He cut the next ball for four over slips and inspired Solanki to play some exquisite strokes of his own. His 50 took 122 balls and arrived with his seventh four

Solanki was batting with a stiff neck, having been struck by a football on Tuesday night. He was very nearly prevented from resuming his innings and could not take his place in the field later in the day.

After an eye-catching performance his demise was a disappointment, scooping the

tall for 65. Swann soon followed driving

to mid-off for 24, to leave England at 335 for 7. However, Chris Read marshalled the tail intelligently, receiving valiant support from Cosker as they put on 35 runs for the eighth wicket before Cosker was out for 11 off Guy Whittall.

Read hit a driven six over long-on off Strang, but was eventually out when he pulled a full toss from the same bowler to the square-leg boundary when on 47.

When Zimbahwe began their reply, there seemed little trouble for the batsmen. They had comfortably negotiated 16 overs when Flintoff hurried a ball through and Trevor Gripper failed to remove his bat

ball to midwicket off Andy Whit- from the line as intended. Read

took the resulting catch. Trevor Madondo was dropped by Loye at slip off Jason Lewry before he had scored, hut England soon

struck with three quick wickets. Craig Wishart was trapped Ibw for 34. Then Harmison was too quick for Madondo and, in the next over, Guy Whittall was bowled without scoring to leave the hosts trailing by 289 runs.

Read was pleased with another good day for him and for England. "We wanted to get up to near the 400-mark and we almost achieved that, so it was good," he said.

"We feel we're in a strong position. We've got to go out with all guns blazing and it would be nice to have them out sometime in the second session (today)."

Second day; England A won toss ENGLAND A - First Inchags

tC M W Read c Gripper b Strang ......47
D A Cosker c Gurt b G J Whittelf ......11

G J Whittell b Cosker .....

Umptres: G R Evans and E J Gilmoud

#### Papps keeps Kiwis alive

thorn in the side of the England England Under-19 225 Under-19 team once again on the third day of the second Test in Wellington.

Zealand opener hit a century in the second innings of the first Test to give his side a chance of a remarkable victory, which they eventually spurned. England's bowlers fared little better against him yesterday, as he went on to score 127 and drag his side back into a game that they appeared to have lost on the first day, when they were bowled out for 110.

The diminutive New

Papps put on 144 for the first wicket with Tim McIntosh, who was the first to go, departing lbw after playing across the line off the bowling of Giles Haywood for 81.

MICHAEL PAPPS proved a NZ Under-19 110 & 307-6

But Papps ground on, reaching his hundred off 319 balls having been at the crease for almost seven hours. England eventually snared him late in the day, the Durham slow leftarmer Greeme Bridge trapping Papps leg before as he played back. Papps was fifth out with the

added a further 23 before the close to stretch their lead to 192, which set up a tense final day. Joe Tucker had taken the second wicket of a frustrating day when Brad Patton edged a cut shot and was caught behind for six. The New Zealand captain, Jarrod Englefield, played

his usual array of shots before

score on 284 and the Kiwis

gloving a hook shot to the wicketkeeper, Mark Wallace, off Matt Whiley when on 45.

England had injury troubles with the Somerset seamers Tucker and Matt Bulbeck, both withdrawing from the attack.

#### Faldo fights to disprove 'paralysis by analysis'

INCE THE world No 1, the sumnit of Nick Faldo's ambition is ow just to play against the preent holder of the title. Tiger bods. Entry and seedings for ac Andersen Consulting World Iatchplay Championship in an Diego at the end of the nonth - 64 players with \$1m :610,000) for the winner - will e taken directly from the world mkings after this week's tour-

aments. Faldo is currently lying 65th ad needs a strong showing at le Desert Classic at the Dubai reck club to ensure his place La Costa. What with the vatries of the ranking system nd depending on what hapms in the week's other tour-

BY ANDY FARRELL in Dubai

naments in Australia, South Africa and California, Faldo could be safe with a top-30 finish but probably needs to be in the top 15.

All that is known for certain is that with David Duval having withdrawn from the Buick Invitational in the States, Woods cannot be overtaken as No1 seed. However, the participation of Japan's Jumbo Ozaki is in doubt while Tom Lehman has not yet played this season after a shoulder operation.

Players have until a week on

point the entry list may go down to 66th on the rankings Per-Ulrik Johansson, Robert Karlsson and Scotland's Andrew Coltart are the others in Dubai dreaming of California

Not insignificantly, though, this event has the strongest field on the European Tour so far this season, with Colin Montgomerie, Lee Westwood, Darren Clarke, Jose Maria Olazabai and Ian Woosnam, plus Mark O'Meara, the Open and Masters

"I am not just aiming for the top 30," Faldo said. "To get up there, that's the goal. I've got to

experienced lately, apart from two who had suffered from a fourth-place finish at the Aus-over-coaching and "paralysis by tralian Open in December His analysis". opening two events of the year m South Africa produced a missed cut and 43rd place.

At one of those tournaments Mark McNulty described some of Faldo's shots as those of a "24-handicapper" while last an unnamed journalist to whom week the Englishman also he had refused to speak on a resuffered an extraordinary outburst from Gary Player "Nick was one of the greatest players in the world but the reported widely.

guy can't play at all now," Play-er said. "When he makes a cut, I am astonished." go out and play well, as simple The South African coupled to ball himselfout, Faldo has replay event is that the number is a great event and I want to as that." This is something the Faldo with the former Open sorted to what he knows best: of Ryder Cup points on offer will make sure I'm there."

"I don't believe Gary said that

because he is one of my biggest fans," Faldo responded. In ignoring the message, however, he took aim at the messenger, claiming it was all the work of cent trip to Australia. In fact, Player's remarks were made at a formal press conference and

Whether in denial or not, in finding himself up the proverbial creek without much of a game

"I'm working on it," Faldo said of his game. "Everything's coming back and it's getting better and I feel it is going to hap-

pen. I've just got to be patient and work it all in simple as that I was a bit rusty in South Africa and everything wasn't quite in sync. We worked on my balance a lot. If your swing's out of balance you simply can't have great tempo. That's the keyword we've had recently and it has helped a lot."

Faldo on, however, are "Ryder"

Monday to register, at which six-times major winner has not champion Ian Baker-Finch as refining his paddling technique. be the same as at the Open Championship. Considerably fewer will be available if Plan A does not work out and he has to play in nearby Qatar next week instead.

An unwitting by-product of Faldo's desire to fulfil his tour commitments in the United States as well as chasing Ryder Cup points in Europe is that he will come into line with his critics' thoughts that he should play competitively more often.

"You are talking a minimum The keywords that still drive of 27 events, so that's at least five more than I've been playand "Cup". The importance of ing for the last couple of seaqualifying for the World Match- sons," he said. "The Ryder Cup

#### TOMORROW

This is an

opportunity to show what progress we have made, that we're not a rundown

club going nowhere' Rochdale prepare for

their debut on live television

### Fans unwilling to finance rise for Leboeuf

THE FOOTBALL Supporters' Association have urged Franck Leboeuf to consider where his wage increase will come from when he negotiates a new Stamford Bridge contract.

The French World Cup winner warned in a magazine interview that he did not want to be the "club cretin" where wages were concerned.

The 31-year-old earns about film a season with Chelsea after arriving in west London last season from Strasbourg for £2.5m. But the FSA's chairman, Alison Pilling, insists that

Leboeuf's salary should come from chairman Ken Bates' pocket and not via an increase

"Most fans believe that Premiership players are paid enough and most would consider they are paying quite enough - and if Franck Leboeuf thinks he is worth more he needs to think about where that money is coming from,"

"If he thinks Ken Bates should be putting more money

the club, that's a different question. If Franck Leboeuf or any

other Premier League player thinks they should be paid more, then they need to give some serious thought to where the money is coming from. If it's out of the profits made by the club, then that's one side. But if he thinks fans should pay more on the gate or through pay-per-view television, that's

a very different story.
"At some point, fans will need to sit down seriously with Bates is a very decent and reabodies like the Professional

would say 'fine'. But if it is the Footballers' Association and Leboeuf has a justifiable case. Football interview that he fans who should put more into make sure that both fans and I'm sure he will put his hands boped to "quadruple" his startplayers get what they deserve out of the game."

The former Chelsea defender Paul Elliott has backed Leboeuf in his demand for higher wages from the Stamford Bridge club. He thinks that if the chib are to remain among the country's élite they must secure Leboeuf's services for the future.

"You have to say Leboeuf is extending his deal. "He is a valuable asset to the a top quality defender who has given super service to Chelsea," Elliott said. "Ken cinh, and I am sure that has been more than recognised by Ken Bates sonable man. If he feels

Leboeuf said in the France

in his pockets. I have no doubt

"Leboeuf is a proven inter-

national and is excellent for

Cheisea. I am sure the chib will

want to retain his services and

I am sure at some stage in the

future it will be best for both

about that

ing salary when the club enter egotiations over his future.

"Ken Bates likes to say I was the deal of his life," Leboeuf said. "That pleases me, and I'm very happy at Chelsea. But I don't want to be the club cretin. "I signed a very good con-

tract when I came here. I've club and player to sit down and see if there is a possibility of doubled it since and I hope to adruple it soon. If the bosses don't make an effort, I may think about leaving. We'll see at the end of the season.

Roma gave Zdenek Zeman a one-year contract extension

coach on board even though the Italian Serie A club is mired in a serious slump.

The cluh's spokesman, Dario Brugnoli, confirmed the deal ties Zeman to Roma through until the end of next season, but would not reveal financial terms.

While often providing eyegrabbing play in the attack, as Zeman's teams generally do, Roma, who have won seven and lost six of their 20 matches this season, have faltered of late. They have won just one of

Wednesday, keeping the Czech into a equal seventh place in the 18-team First Division.

rase

Zeman led Roma to a thirdolace finish last season, his first with the team. He had previously coached Lazio, Roma's city rivals, and Foggia.

The downturn has led to calls, among fans and in the media, for Zeman's dismissal. Such cries reached a peak after Roma's 3-1 defeat on Sunday against Venezia, who are fight

ing against relegation. Roma have also drawn with the bottom club, Empoli, and lost to 17th-placed Salernitana

### Asprilla back to his old trickery

The erstwhile Magpie maverick was Colombia's colossus against Germany. By Rupert Metcalf in Miami

France 98, accused of being a disruptive influence within the Colombian World Cup camp, it seemed that the talents of one of football's true mavericks might be lost to the internahonal arena

The former Newcastle striker is now back in favour, however. He was recalled by Colombia's new coach, Javier Alvarez, for last month's friendly at home to Denmark, and responded with a goal in a 1-1

On Tuesday, on a sultry goal in the 26th minute. Florida afternoon in the Orange best, scoring twice in a thrilling 3-3 draw with Germany. All the old tricks were on display: the twists and turns, the theatrical tumbles and the tormented appeals to the referee.

But with Colombia a man down for the entire second half after the debutant defender Alexander Lemus had been sent off for two foolish yellow cards, Asprilla had to work hard, too. He dropped back into midfield after the interval. and did his share of chasing back and defending.

Alvarez made it clear after

WHEN FAUSTINO ASPRILLA of Colombia, that Asprilla is was sent home early from now expected to labour for the common cause. "We have to avoid relying too much on one player," he said. "It is a collective game.

Asprilla is now without several of his old team-mates - both Carlos Valderrama and Freddy Rincon have retired from international football since the World Cup, and other veterans have been discarded by Alvarez. Against Germany the coach gave four players their debut, one of whom started the move that brought the opening

Henry Zambrano, hoxed in Bowl, Asprilla was back to his by the corner flag on the left wing, dribbled his way into space and found the midfielder Arley Betancourt. He slid a superb pass through the German defence that gave Neider Morantes the chance to cross

> Asprilla celebrated with a typelled within seven minutes. though, with Michael Preetz knocking the ball in after Oscar Cordoha had pushed aside a shot from Oliver Neuville.



for Asprilla to tap in from six Colombia's Faustino Asprilla controls the ball under the close attention of Germany's Christian Worns in the spirited 3-3 draw in Miami

Neuville cross 10 minutes after ical somersault in front of the the interval. Playing against 10 Colombian fans. Germany lev- men, it looked as though Gerin a spirited display Colombia kept pushing men forward and they were rewarded in the 67th minute. The substitute goalkeeper, Jens Lehmann, was

It was a great team goal and with a fine header from a judged to have brought down that met a well-flighted free mitted Germany's coach, Erich Jorge Bermudez and Asprilla kick by Asprilla. A draw was a fair conclusion cooverted the penalty with

> casual arrogance. Marco Bode headed Germany ahead again after 74 minutes hut still Colombia came back. Ten minutes from the end Ivan Cordoba found the net with a glancing header

to this friendly, but Germany will not be happy with conceding six goals in two games, after Saturday's 3-0 defeat to the United States in Jacksonville. "We were under immense

pressure after that result," ad-

Ribbeck. He has been criticised for relying on too many veterans, but he insisted that "we still need the older players to guide the younger ones. We are only in the middle of our restructuring programme".

his views on reincarnation.

Sadly, he was not asked for

COLOMBIA (4-4-2): O Cordoba (Boca Juniors); Lemus (Orice Caldas), 1 Cordoba (San Lorenzo), Bermudez (Boca Juniors), Maziri (America Call); Serna (Boca Juniors), Maziri (America Call); Serna (Boca Juniors), Betancourt (Deportivo Call). Morantes (Nacional Medellin), Belanco (Lolombian Football Federation), Asprilla (Parma), Substitutes; Yepes (Deportivo Call) for Maziri, h-t: Perchado (Racing Santander) for Betancourt, h-t: Gaviria (Deportivo Call) for Bolanos, h-t: Congo (Once Caldas) for Zambrano, 65; Saalcedo (Once Caldas) for Morantes, 78.

GERWANY (1-3-4-2): Kaku (Bayern Munich); Matchaus (Bayern Munich); Babbet (Bayern Munich), Wörns (Paris St-Germain), Reboser (Hansa Rostock); Möller (Borussia Dortmund), Neurillie (Hansa Rostock), Jeressies (Bayern Munich), Rado (Kaserslautern); Preetz (Hertha Berlin), Bode (Werder Bremen), Substitutes: Lebrasans (Borussia Dortmund) for Kains, h-t; Nerflinger (Borussia Dortmund) for Jeremies, h-t; Zidder (Bayern Munich) for Neurille, 74; Rickess (Borussia Dortmund) for Reich, 78. Reference 8 Hall (United States).

#### Upson's Arsenal ambition

day night, Arsenal's Matthew clinched victory against France Upson, yesterday revealed his at Pride Park. determination to break up the most famons back four in Eng-

Upson is full of admiration for Tony Adams and Martin Keown, who formed England's centre-hack pairing against France at Wembley last night. He admits that watching and playing with the Gunners' back four, including Lee Dixon and Nigel Winterburn, has taught him everything he knows.

But Upson is also aware that he needs first-team football if his potential is to be fully developed. At the moment Under-21 games are providing him with a lift away from the grind of training and reserve-team football with the Gunners.

"To get a full-time spot for

Arsenal is my main objective, and I am hoping events will eventually lead to that happening," He said. "It's tough at the moment because the two centre-halves are the two England centre-halves, so I will have to go a hit to get in. I've learned everything off the back four, and it was hrilliant to see the two full-backs, Dixon and Winterburn, also called up "I don't get enough oppor-

tunities to play and I need to play more games to push myself up on to the next level." Meanwhile, England's other scorer, Lee Bowyer, praised

the efforts of the Under-21 reputation with his second goal their fall-out last season when break, he said yesterday.

THE HERO of England's Under- in four Under-21 appearances the Leeds player refused to play 21 victory over France on Tues- to seal the fightback which in the Toulon tournament.

Taylor's position remains in doubt after the sacking of Gleon Hoddle despite a formidable record in terms of results and hringing players through into the senior squad. Bowyer, who ended 17

months of exile with his first Under-21 goal, said: "I think he's done an excellent job, and when I've been away the side has been playing really well. "They've had some excellent

results, and people like Michael Owen, Rio Ferdinand and Lee Hendrie have all gone into the full squad while Kieron Dyer has been with them for the France game."

Hendrie, the Aston Villa midfielder, has set his sights on regaining his place in the full England squad after reaping Upson again enhanced his coach, Peter Taylor, despite the benefits of a mid-season

been feeling jaded in recent weeks after a virtual non-stop schedule since breaking into the Villa team on a regular basis 12 months ago.

However, the Villa manager, John Gregory, gave him a week's break, and Hendrie returned from the Canary Isles with his batteries recharged to turn in a sparkling performance against France on Tues-

Hendrie said: "I needed a break I had been feeling tired and a hit jaded and I hadn't been performing very well in the last few games for Villa. "I told the gaffer, and he told me not to come in for training

for a week-so I went away and got my feet up for a few days. "I think it did the trick, because I came back feeling fresh and feeling ready for the Under-21 game. It certainly helped."

managers who watched the non-League striker Eifion Williams in the bitter cold and snow at Wrexham were yesterday given a word of advice from the former Wales and Everton captain Kevin Ratcliffe.

Ratcliffe made his debut on his country's coaching staff for the B team's 1-0 victory over Northern Ireland B at Wrexham on Tuesday night when the £100,000-rated Williams scored the winner with his first touch after coming on as a substitute. Ratcliffe, with 56 caps and a glittering array of trophles from Everton's glory days, knows a thing or two about strikers. During his playing days he was a team-mate of Ian Rush, Mark Hughes, Andy Gray and

Graeme Sharp.
And Raicliffe, now managing third division Chester, believes that 23-year-old Williams can make it in the league."

Hendrie admitted he had THE GATHERING of leading make it to the top. Ratcliffe said: "There's no doubt in my mind that the lad can succeed at a much higher level and score goals wherever he plays."

Williams earns high praise

The former Bangor sports and recreation student currently plays for the League of Wales champions, Barry Town, but, after his step up in class to win his first B cap, his name must be on several Football League clubs' wanted lists. Last season he scored 57 goals for Barry this term he already has 37-and has experienced European football in the Champions' League

against Dynamo Kiev. Ratcliffe said: "The way he took his goal was first class, a tremendous instinctive strike. And from what we saw out on the pitch from him and the way he has been in training with us all week, he has not looked out of place. I believe he could

Williams was rejected by too. "Now I have spent the Wolverhampton Wanderers after two years on their books and then went to college while playing part-time for Caernarfon Town. He moved to Barry for £25,000, a League of Wales

record The new Port Vale manager, Brian Horton, was among a host of managers and scouts at the game, alongside Blackpool's Nigel Worthington and Macclesfield's Sammy McIlroy.

luck so far this term trying to further his career, after trials at Cardiff, Nottingham Forest and Portsmouth. He went to Forest for a trial, scored twice, and a few weeks later Dave Bassett got the sack and a possible move fell apart. He also went to Portsmouth, played in a game there, and then found the club had been put into liquidation. That possible move collapsed,

week training with the Wales lads and playing with people who are in the Premier League or top Nationwide league sides and enjoyed every minute," Williams said. "You see what standards you have to achieve to get on in the game, and I just hope things happen for me."

John Oster is another play-

who hopes to benefit from the Wales victory. The 20-year-old winger, who has failed to figure Williams has not had much in Everton's plans this season, was recalled to international duty last night after being sent off in successive Under-21 internahonals last year. "I feel I have learned my lesson as far as those red cards are concerned," he said. "I appreciate. being brought back in for a B game, I realise that I am still in the back of someone's mind I just hope I have got myself back in the frame [at Everton]."

#### Guivarc'h eager for goals

Rangers striker who has been accused by his critics in Scotland of being lazy, has responded by saying: "I'm only here to score goals."

The French forward, who has found goals easier to come by with Rangers than be did with Newcastle earlier in the season, has scoted seven times in 12 appearances since his £3.5m move to Ibrox in November. His goals have been vital hut his overall performances have been criticised and he has been dropped by

against Hamilton of the First But I do not think playing in fourth round of the Tennent's with the national team. Scottish Cup after being left out of the team that beat Dunfermline 3-0 at the weekend. "As a striker my role is sim-

ply to score, not to play in the middle or in defence," Gulygoals rate since I came here. "I have a very good opinion of Scottish football. The game

here has good players and

strong teams. Rangers, in par-

Division on Sunday in the Scotland will affect my chances "It is up to me to get myself back into the team and that means concentrating on doing my best for Rangers,"

Jonatan Johansson, the Finland forward, played ahead of arc'h said. "I am happy with my Guivarc'h in the Dunfermline game and impressed, scoring two goals. "Of course every player wants first-team football But I am still young and this is a big club with a large squad so ticular play good passing foot- I know I won't play all the

YESTERDAY EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP SIX Cyprus (3) ......4 Sen Marino (0) ...0 Melanarkitis 18 3,000

GROUP EIGHT PRIEMWATIONAL FRIENDLY: (TIFARE):

FOOTBALL RESULTS Chester Reid v Scanthorpe, League Cap Group Siz: Norts County 0 Broditor 2. AVON RESURANCE COMBINATION First Division Barner O Wycombe 3: Chariton 4 Cambridge 5: Cokrester O Swindon 1: Brighton 0 Mrifwall 0.

TUESDAY'S LATE

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of Scottish golf clubs which are to take part in a trial of on-course cardiac

resuscitation equipment, similar to apparatus used in several Las Vegas casinos.

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### Rusedski is erased by erratic serve

emand GREG RUSEDSKI'S prospects of reaching the quarter-finals of the \$1m (£625,000) Dubai Duty eath Free Open capitulated in extraordinary circumstances last night. One moment the British iquiry No 2 was coasting along, leading Francisco Clavet, of Spain, by a set and two breaks of serve; the next he was floundering his way out of the tour-

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nament, 3-6, 7-5, 6-2. Clavet cracked Rusedski's famous serve seven times in nine attempts to take control of what had seemed a lost cause after the 30-year-old Spaniard had slumped to 0-3 in the second set

Even when Rusedski doublefaulted to lose the fourth game it seemed that the error would only be a blip on an otherwise satisfactory night's work in competition with a fellow lefthander. But the scene changed dramatically after Clavet saved two break points in the fifth game, having been warned inbetween for an audible ob-

Clavet stood and argued with the German umpire, Rudi Berger, instead of taking a rest during the changeover, but it transpired that he, not Rusedski, was now the player fired up for action. He immediately broke to love, balancing the set at 3-3.

Although Rusedski seemed to have steadied the situation, delivering a smash to break for 3. a couple of double-faults enouraged Clavet back into conteotion, and the Spaniard lobbed him for 4-4.

Rusedski rescued one set point in the 10th game with a volley, but double-faulted to 0-40 at 5-6, hauling himself back to deuce only for Clavet to strike on his third set point. The arrival of the third set

BY JOHN ROBERTS

did little to restore Rusedski's spirits. He was unable to make an impression on Clavet's serve in the opening game and the match evaporated in front of his eyes after he was broken for 0-2. Clavet will go on to play Germany's Nicolas Keifer, ranked No 41, in the next round.

The 21-year-old Keifer elimmated the No 6 seed, Albert Costa, of Spain, 6-3, 7-6, although towards the end of the second set it seemed that the German was going to fritter away his chances. He led 4-0 and had three match points, on Costa's serve, before the tiebreak, and led 5-0 in the shootout before securing his place in the quarter-finals, 7-3, on his fifth match point.

Carlos Moya, the No 2 seed, advanced to the last eight with a 6-4, 6-4 win against Thomas Muster, the 1997 champion. The 31-year-old Muster still relishes a scrap, but Moya was determined to extend his run of three consecutive wins against the Austrian, who had given the Spaniard some harsh lessons in their first three matches. Muster was on the wrong

end of some dubious line calls, particularly when broken in the concluding game of the opening set, but he reserved his ire for himself, earning a warning for breaking his racket in frustration after a net cord in the 10th game of the second set hastened his departure.

Moya is the favourite to succeed his compatriot, Alex Corretja, the defending champion, top seed and world No 2, who is still coming to terms with his

match points in his first-round contest against the spirited Australian Andrew Ilie, who converted his third match point to win a third-set tie-break, 12-10. Ilie will play Petr Korda in the second round.

In the quarter-finals, Moya will play his fellow country-man Felix Mantilla, the runnerup to Corretja here last year and winner of the Samsung Open at Bournemouth in September. Mantilla defeated Byron Black, of Zimbabwe, 7-6, 6-3, in the opening match on the Centre Court

Four days ago, Fabrice Santoro defeated a fellow Frenchman, Arnaud Clement, to win the second ATP Tour title of his career, in Marseilles. Yesterday Santoro was a first-round loser bere, beaten by another of his compatriots, Jerome Golmard,

At the St Petersburg Open, Russia's Andrei Chesnokov made a disappointing return to the court yesterday after surgery on his leg, losing 6-1, 6-3 to Jens Knippschild of Germany. It was Chesnokov's first tournament since he underwent surgery on a leg injury in August

Chesnokov blamed his weakened leg for his failure to return Knippschild's strong serves but said he would play out the rest of the year, "I'm 33, but I like tennis. And I don't feel a desire to leave tennis," be said.

Russia's Igor Kornienko upset Marc-Kevin Goellner of Germany 3-6, 7-6, 6-3 and advanced to the second round in his first appearance in the tournament. He surprised Lanrence Tieleman of Italy on Monday, beating him 6-3, 3-1.

Results, Digest, page 29 Pete Sampras fires in a forehand en route to victory over Spain's Galo Blanco in San Jose

#### Sampras quick to find his form

PETE SAMPRAS needed just an hour to win his first match of the year and advance to the second round of the ATP Tour eveot in San Jose, California, at the ex-pense of Spain's Galo Blanco.

The world Not triumphed, 6-4, 6-4, losing only one point on his first serve and only eight on it overall in Tuesday night's match. He fired 11 aces, served only one double-fault and never faced a break point.

"I'm fresh and when I'm fresh I'm dangerous," said the 27-year-old Sampras, who won this event in 1996 and 1997

Fatigue forced Sampras to skip the Australian Open after he had played in seven tournaments in a row to end 1998 on top of the rankings, the record sixth successive year the American had finished the season ranked first. Sampras's withdrawal from Melbourne was the first Grand Slam event he had missed in seven years.

"I really felt my tennis tonight was going to be up and down because I hadn't played in a while," said Samoras, who lost to Andre Agassi in last year's final. "But it's like riding a bike, you don't forget how to do it. I was a little surprised. I thought I might struggle a bit."

Sampras won four titles last year, including his fifth Wimbledon crown, and is closing on Ivan Lendi's record of 270 weeks overall as the world's leading player. He is beginning his 258th week at the summit of the ATP rankings.

Mark Philippoussis, the third seeded Australian, opened his campaign by outlasting Arme-nia's Sargis Sargsian, 6-7, 7-5, 6-3. The plans of the former No

I Jim Courier to re-enter the top 50 stalled when he was beaten by the Dutchman John Van Lottum on Tuesday, 6-4, 7-6. Now ranked 68th and aged 28, the American still thinks he has an outside chance of reaching the top again. "That's not what I'm playing for and I realise it would be close to a miracle for it to happen again, but I'm not going to rule it out," he said.

#### Salt Lake inquiry implicates 24 | Ebdon's slow show ends in boos

THE INTERNATIONAL Olympic Committee promised yesterday to consider expelling more members to restore its credibility and mollify sponsors as the Sait Lake City scandal broadened to implicate 20 per cent of IOC members.

"We will act decisively," said Anita DeFrantz, an IOC vicepresident from the United States.

IOC leaders read the 300page report issued on Tuesday by a Salt Lake ethics panel, a locument detailing more than \$1m (£600,000) in cash payments and other favours lavished on IOC members during the city's winning bid for the 2002 Winter Games. The report linked an additional 10 IOC members to the scandal. bringing to 24 the number of Olympic delegates accused of accepting excessive benefits.

The IOC said the ethics report was being forwarded to its own six man panel investigating the Salt Lake case. The IOC executive board expects to receive "the earliest possible recommendaions" from that panel, the IOC aid in a statement from Lau-June. Switzerland

"The IOC remains fully com-

#### OLYMPIC GAMES

BY STEPHEN WILSON

mitted to investigating and taking action based on all available evidence," the statement said. Last month, the IOC panel

identified 14 members involved in alleged excesses stemming from Salt Lake's bid. Nine of those members have either re signed or been expelled by the IOC executive board. Three others - including the executive board member Kim Un-yong of South Korea - remain under investigation, one received a

warning and one bas died. The IOC noted that last month's expulsions were "based on evidence available at the time." Further expulsions are now likely before the special IOC assembly in Lausanne on 17 to 18 March.

"If you find something that's a real breach, we basically have only one sanction, and that's expulsion," said Dick Pound, the IOC vice-president who is leading the internal inquiry.

Jacques Rogge, an IOC executive board delegate who is on Pound's panel, said the commission would meet soon to review the report, and said he was not surprised that more members were implicated.

He said a key issue for the IOC panel will be to determine whether members were guilty of actual ethical violations. "You have to differentiate between what is a breach of the line, and what is so-called lavish treatment'," be said.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, has written to all cities which bid for the Olympics of 1996, 2000 and 2004, asking for any documented evidence of misconduct. The IOC's marketing direc-

tor, Michael Payne, who is in the United States meeting Olympic sponsors, claimed that the IOC is doing everything in its power to stamp out corruption and institute reform. "If the crisis is handled quickly, the movement will come out in a year or two a much stronger organisation," he said. "The results of the steps taken over the last six weeks are a clear indication of that. In the next six weeks. there will be more proof of how

serious the organization is." On Tuesday, the head of one Olympic sponsor, John Hancock Insurance, criticised the

SPORTING DIGEST

RUGBY UNION

IOC's handling of the crisis and suggested that Samaranch's tenure may be running out. But Payne rejected the continuing calls from outside the IOC for Samaranch to resign, saying the 78-year-old president is needed to lead the house-cleaning efforts. "If the president stepped down, you would have

the instability that would bring," Payne said. "That's the last thing you want at this stage." Payne downplayed the decision by John Hancock to cancel negotiations with NBC for \$20m in television advertising. "They aren't withdrawing from their sponsorship," be said. "This issue is related to a media

purchase, which is separate

a presidential election with all

from the sponsorship. Several Olympic sponsors don't advertise at all on the broadcast." Despite John Hancock's move, Payne said there was no crack in support from the Olympic sponsors who pay millions of dollars to help finance the Games. "The sponsors are standing, first of all, behind the Games, and, second, behind the steps and action the IOC,

Samaranch and the executive

board are taking," Payne said.

#### THE CHORUS of disapproval SNOOKER

Ebdon described the move

as "not the best decision in the

world", and both players looked

bemused when the referee.

Alan Chamberlain, failed to re-

rack the balls for a 10th frame.

by the 719 spectators and boos

from a Wembley crowd is normally reserved for a poor performance by England's footballers. But last night the jeers were for the decision to call a premature halt to a snooker match next door at the

Wembley Conference Centre. On the stroke of 6pm, the best-of-11 frames second-round contest between Peter Ebdon and Mark King in the Benson and Hedges Masters was halted, with Ebdon 5-4 in front, because of slow play.

rang out as the duo departed from view. It is only the third time in the 25-year history of the event that a match has been called off without a result. Ebdon, the minutes, with the longest frame of the match.

time, had to wait until the conclusion of the match between Ronnie O'Sullivan and James Wattana late last night hefore they could resume.

The game was due to re-A slow handclap was struck up sume with Ebdon requiring one of the remaining two frames to secure a place in the quarter-finals against the world champion, John Higgins.

Vesterday afternoon's session lasted three hours and 13

world No 8, and King, who is lasting 29 minutes in duration. playing at Wembley for the first However, both players were responsible for their own downfall, with frequent visits to the toilets backstage and bizarre decisions to continue playing even when certain frames were clearly already decided.

Ebdon led for most of the afternoon, building leads of 2-0. 4-3 and 5-4 with high breaks of 68 and 65. However, King, a 6-5 first-round winner over Jimmy White, had shown plenty of spirit and was by no means out

#### Grounded Eagles search for owner

joined their rugby union colleagues in searching for a new owner after Sir John Hall's decision to abandon his Newcastle Sporting Club concept.

The Budweiser League side's general manager, Paul Blake, said yesterday: "We are looking for a new owner for our franchise, which has been a spectacular success in terms of growth and becoming a feasible

BY RICHARD TAYLOR

business operation. As it stands today there is not by any means a problem getting to the end of the season."

in agreement: "With basketball, we're on solid ground with fans and with sponsors. Our wage bill is smaller than the ice hockey, plus we've been suc-

The coach, Paul Lynch, was

cessful and have been attract-

Basketball was an important part of Sir John's Newcastle Sporting Club, which was built on Continental lines, alongside football, rugby and ice hockey. However, following last year's demise of the ice hockey team. the rugby union and basketball elements have oow lost their financial backing too.

The Basketball League is already looking for oew owners

ANDORRA

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BULGARIA

CANADA

FRANCE

ITALY

La Villa

SWEDEN

SCOTLANO

Nevis Range .. 80%

SWITZERLAND

UNITED STATES

Lake Louise

S Chevalier

.100%

for Birmingham Bullets, but Blake denied that there was any prospect of the Eagles also reverting to League control in the interim. "The basketball club is more than feasible as a business and we hope to make an announcement within a couple of days," Blake said.

been appointed assistant coach at bottom-of the-League Worthing Bears, another club contemplating new ownership.

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Information supplied by Ski Hotline

Charlie Bannerman has

#### ATHLETICS

AMPERE INDOOR EVENT (Selected) 000m: 1 M Carroll (III) 7min 50 51sec 90m hardles: 1 L Herberi (5A) 34.92se

BADMINTON ngland's most successful doubles artnership. Simon Archer and Chris lunt, ranked recently as high as burth in the world, are to split up.

BASKETBALL BAE Philadelphia 90 Detroit 86; Mahasuki 1 Koronto 77, Boscon 108 Milani 101, Mil Harris 74 San Automa 70, Arlanta 87 Chic. 71: Ulari 90 Callas 79, Sacramento 11 historia 95, Seattle 90 Golden State 71.

BIATHLON were cold yesterday forced the ostponement of the start of the fold Championships at Kontiolahti.

newhat warmer than on previous to but at around -25C were 50Il 5 cold. The competition limit is set CRICKET

impshire have signed the 22-ar-old Durham fast bowler Steve iesden on a one-year contract. He if provide cover for the West In-an Nixon McLean, who is expect-I to miss the first half of the season

110 miss the list fall to the scanner world Cup duty.

over World Cup duty.

sy to 20 June): G Satmond (Grange, St. M. Addegham (Heract's). J Balan at Indrats's). J Brinkley junationed, A at Indrats's. A Bandes (Nest London, Duer (Chacket). B Patterson (April Philip istenbousemus). K Sheridan ideal. M Smith [Aberdenskine.] Janger (Chackedaite). P Seeindi junationed). G Williamson (Chackedaite).

CYCLING

CYCLING

MALLORCA TOUR Foorth stage
173.8ten, cale Boses-Cale Medice to Cale
Rajadaj: 1 M Cipollini Iri Saeco 4ir 22min
46sec; 2 R McEwen (Av.) Rabobank; 9 T
5 reets | Ber) Mapei. 4 J Hunt (GB); 5 G M
Fagnini Iri) Saeco: 6 O Freire (Sp.) Vitalicio
Seguros all same time. Onerall: 1 J L Rebolio (Sp) ONCE-Deussche Bank 1 3in 49min
18sec; 2 F Cabello (Sp) Kelme Costa Blanca +29sec; 8 M C Moller (Den) TVM: 48:
4 J P Rodriguer Sp) Kelme Costa Blanca +29sec; 8 M C Moller (Den) TVM: 48:
5 J D Osa (Sp) Banesso: 6 J Boven (Neth)
Rabobani: 7 I Gonzalez (Sp) Estalarie Eusladi; 6 P Farazija (Bei) Condis. 9 F G Casas
(Sp) Festina all Sr).

FOOTBALL Gary Ablett, the Birmingham cap-tain, will miss the rest of the seatain, will miss the rest of the sea-son after undergoing surgery to repair knee ligament damage. The 33-year-old defender was injured during Saturday's 1-1 draw at Crys-tal Palace. TRIAL: Marian Pakhar (forward) Stonto Rigs (Lat) to Southampton.

ICE HOCKEY NHL: Vancouver 4 New Jersey 3; Washington 2 NY Islanders 1; Ottown 1 Buffato 1 (of); Pittsbutgh 3 Montical 2 (of); Detroit 5 Nashedie 2, Calgary 2 Colorado 1; Boston 2 Edmonton 0

POOLS DIVIDENDS POOLS DIVIDENDS
LITTLEWOODS Trable chance: 24pts
£225,504.40.28 £1.257.15; 22 £63.45; 21
£17.75; Half-dine results; 22pts DL 888.90.
Four drawn £24.70. Most homes £1.381.00.
Fire aways £10.15
VERNONS Treble chance: 22pts £4.484.10;
22 £39.65; 21 £10.30.
ZETTERS Tweble chance: 24pts £8.491.70;
23 £83.55; 22 £6.65; 21 £1.05. Four drawns £1.00 Elsey six £49.40 All draws treble chance; fino 24pts witners £1.10 Four services £1.00 Elsey six £49.40 All draws treble chance; fino 24pts witners £2.251.55;
£5.75; 22 £0.35 Lucky numbers £7.29 £1.13 4.8
BRITTERS Treble chance: 22pts £279.00;
BRITTERS Treble chance: 22pts £279.00;

13 4 8 BRITTENS Treble chance: 23pts E279 00: 22 £4,00, 21 £0.80. Four drawn E24,60 Flue aways £7.10. Eight homes £25 00.

Etic Rush, the former All Black, was vesterday sentenced to 200 hours

yesterday sentenced to 200 hours of community service at the Auck-land District Court for his role in the death of a 23-year-old man in a road crash last year. Rush, who led the New Zealand seven-a-side team to the Commonwealth Games gold in September, faced one charge of careless driving causing death, two of careless driving causing injury and one charge of dangerous driving. RELLAND SOUAD (Whiles, Five Nations' Championstop, Whales, Five Nations' Championstop, Whales, Five Nations' Championstop, Whales, Five Nations' Championstop, Whales, 20 February): Backs: CO'Shea, G Derpsey, J Bishop, R Henderson, J Bell, R Maggs, D Humphreys, E El-wood, C Scully, C Alcourness, Forwards P (Colessy, P Wallace, J Titzpatrick, R Wood, R Nesdae, P Johns, J Davidson, M Galvey, D O'Cutmoggain, A Word, E Miller, V Costello, T Brennan.

O Bernan.

(BELAND A (w Wales A, Ebbur Vale, 18 Fabruary): G O'Arcy (Lansdowne): J McMinemay): G Warcy (Lansdowne): J McMinemay (St Mary's College), S Morgan (Lansdowne). K Neane (Garryouen). M Goods (London Irin): 8 Eurits (Lansdowne). G Easterly (London Irin): 8 Eurits (Lansdowne). A Clarite (Dungarnon. capt). A McKleev (Lansdowne). M Silar, 6 Longuer (Lansdowne). M Silar, 6 Longuer (Londowne). A N Other. A Chublan. A Folos (Cart Sannon). Replacements: S Mastel (Eallyment). P Deligaten (Galmengiars). T Theresay (Carryowne). A N Other. G Faicher (Lansdowne). J Mayes (Shannon). R Webr (Portadown).

BY'S LATE RESULT; Club Match: Oxord D Oxford University 69. SKIING ALPINE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Valt, Colorado) Men's combined: 1 K A Aarrod; (Nor) 2min 43.09sec: 2 L Kjus (Nor) 2:43.25; 3 P Accola (Swil) 2:43.52

SNOOKER ENSON AND REDGES MASTERS (West-ev) Second round: A Hamilton (Eng) to ) SQUASH

Noteingham 1: Hallamshire 2 LINW Northum-berland 3. Group Bt. Ashursts Loughborough 3 Bishop's Stortford 2: UK Packaging 3 Edg-basion Priory 2. Group Ct Lee-on-Solent 3 Devon & Berler 2, UniS Guilleford 3 Aspect Chichester 9.

SWIMMING Mark Foster has been forced to with-draw from Great Britain's team for the World Cup meeting in Glasgow at the weekend. The 50 metre freestyle world record-holder dam-aged his shoulder during weight training on Tuesday.

TENNIS ATP SYBASE OPEN (Son Joset Cally) Singles, first restock P Sampras (US) by G Blanco (Sp) 6-4 6-4; M Philippoussis (Aus) by Sargsim (Amm 6-77-5-6-3.) Glemetson (US) by J-M Gambill (US) 6-3 7-5; 5 Koubek (Aus) by S Karbacher (Gor) 6-3 6-2, C Mamilt (US) by K Cartsen (Den) 2-6 6-3 7-5; M Woodforde

tum (Neth) bt J Courner (US) 6-4 7-6.

DUBAN MENTS OPEN Singles, first round:

T Muster (Aut) bt S Huet (Ft) 6-4 6-2: F Caver
(Spi) bt W Ferneira (SA) 3-6-6-7 7-6. N Koffer
(Ger) bt N Escube (Ft) 6-3 6-2: I Van Herck (Bei)
bt U Black (Zim) 6-0 6-4: J Van Herck (Bei)
bt L Paes (Ind) 6-4 6-3. J Bjorkman (Shrei) bt
Becker (Ger) 6-3 6-4; K Xocera (Skovah) bt
A Berjssnegul (Sp) 6-0 6-2; J Gofmand (Fr)
br F Santoro (Fr) 6-6-3; F Markilla (Spi) bt
S Black (Zim) 7-6 6-3; N Klefer (Ger) bt A
Costa (Spi) 6-3 7-6.

ST PETERSBURG MEN'S OPEN Singles.

Costa (Sp) 6-3 7-6.

ST PETERSEURG MEN'S OPEN Singles, first round: M Roses (Svid) bt S Perushevsky (Ros) 6-0 6-2: G Raous (Fr) bt O Varcei (Cz Rep) 7-6 6-4; J Kinipschild (Ger) bt A Otespokov (Ros) 6-1 6-3; A Clement (Fr) bt K Alami (Mor) 6-2 6-7 6-4. Second rosest 1 Korniesko (Ros) bt M-K Goeliner (Ger) 3-6 1-6 6-3; A Pavel (Rom) bt J Tarango (US) 3-6 6-3 6-3.

6-3 6-2.

NORIA WOMEN'S CUP (Prostejov, Cr. Rap) Singles, first round: A Hopmans (Neth) bit R Sands (Rom) 4-6 6-3 6-2: H Nagyus (Struck) bit Nejedy (Can) 6-2 6-7 6-3; JAbe (Ger) bit I Kandar (Ger) 6-4 6-3: K Studenkova (Struck) bit A Gersi (Cr. Rep.) 7-5 6-3. Sandard round: N Dechy (Fr) bit Colarse (R) 6-1 6-3: A Dechaume-Galleret (Fr) bit A Firsal (Fr) 7-5; H Nagyous (Stouch) bit M Shaugnessy (US) 6-3 6-4.

Singles, first rounds in Timford (Swe) by M Maclagan (West of Scotland) 6-2.6-1; D Sherwood (Wins) by R Weldenfield (Isn) 6-7.6-2.6-2. G Elseneer (Bel) bt? I Lithbóc (Cros) 4-6.7-6.6-4; F Loven (Swe) bt i Bates (Fants) 6-1.6-3; K Knowle (Aut) b; Y Schulin (Rus) 3-6.6-1.6-2; A Popp (Ger) bt P Hand (Berls) 3-6.6-1.6-2; A Popp (Ger) bt P Hand (Berls) 5-4.6-4; M Belgraner (Neth) b; S Blanc (Fr) 4-6.6-3.6-2; B Lirh (Sloven) br M Stepanek (Cz Rep) 7-6-3-6.6-1; A Vindguerra (Swe) bt. F Roval (Swe) 6-3.6-3; O Meritert (Ger) bt. F Fledil (Cz Rep) 6-4.4; J Sectrosystom (Swe) bt. F Delmood (Aus) 6-4.2: M Merry (Neth) bt. D Stoch (Cz Rep) 7-5.6-2; E Erich (Isr) bt. M Verkerh (Neth) 6-4.7-6. R Lavergne (Fr) bt. N Goald (Aun) 4-3 ret. T Spinks (Norfolk) bt. P Dezort (Cz Rep) 6-3.6-7.7-6.

Rep) 6-3 6-7 7-6.

LTA WOMEN'S TOURDIAMENT (Birmingham) Stagles, second round: 5 De Beer (5A) be E Pioppo (it) 6-1 6-1; Juntowa (Rus) by 1 Obder (Ist) 4-6 6-3 6-7; J Ahl (Devord bt K De Welle (Neb) 6-4 6-2; N Egorous (Rus) by J Choudhury (Camba) 6-7 6-4; B Bruis (Neb) by 5 De Ville (Bel) 7-5 6-1; S Erre (Fr) by Leit's (Chord) 6-4 6-3; M Minshach (Rom) of Karpenschif [71] 6-4 7-5; L Lailmer (Warwicks) by N Bachmann (Ger) 6-4 6-5 6-4

#### TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL 7.30 unless stated RYMAN LEAGUE Inthinian League Cap third round: Marlow v Hendon, SCREWFD( DESECT LEAGUE Presider Division: Backwell v Barnstaple. HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE OF

SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Cardill Dev-Ils v Bracknell Bees (7.0): Newcastle River-kings v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.15).

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WIGAN'S NEW RUNNING MAN P25 • HILL LOST



TOWN

### Clubs seek transfer harmony

A EUROPE-WIDE transfer window became a possibility yesterday following proposals from the newly formed Association of European Premier Leagues. The body also suggested a common European calendar for international fixtures, to avoid clasbes with league matches, and said there should be a minimum number of players under the age of 21 in each team's squad.

the offices of the Premier League, with the Sports Minister Tony Banks also in attendance. The three main ideas were put forward for further discussion at the association's next meeting, to be held in March.

The common transfer window policy is the most radical proposal as currently there are widely different arrangements. some leagues having cut-off Netherlands, Portugal, Scotdeadlines and others having transfer windows at various times during the season.

The Premier League chief

forward, yesterday declared

his desire to get back into the

Parkhead team after refusing

China. His reason for turning

down the move – the food.

chance to play his football in

Jackson, who spent time on

loan with Coventry recently,

was offered a transfer to the

Chinese team, Dalian Wanda,

last month. However, the 32-

year-old, who played twice for

Scotland at the World Cup last

summer, decided to return to

Glasgow at the weekend after

a trial with the Chinese club.

ditional contract and the Chi-

nese were fantastic and treated

"I went out there on a con-

me very well. But I am not the son said.

Chinese food forces

Jackson back home

DARREN JACKSON, the Celtic best of eaters at the best of

BY ALAN NIXON

for the leagues to come together on this point. There is feeling we need harmony throughout Europe to ensure fair play and it's something we will continue to discuss."

The concept of promoting home-grown youth players follows the Scottish Football As-The 13-strong group met at sociation's rule that says at least two Scottish-born players aged under 21 years must be included in each first-team squad. The move to harmonise international dates is to try to limit the number of players missing club games to play in friendlies.

The association represents the leagues of Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, land, Spain and Switzerland, and is officially recognised by Uefa, football's European governing body.

executive, Peter Lever, said: Watford have signed the for-"We think it might be feasible mer Aston Villa, Wolves and

times and the food wasn't what

"I felt I wasn't eating prop-

I am used to," Jackson said.

erly and I wasn't myself. I want

I felt I had to give it a go and I

lasted eight days. But it wasn't

games as a substitute in his

loan spell at Coventry, Jackson

faces a buge task to persuade

Jozef Venglos, the Celtic head

coach, that he merits renewed

consideration for a first-team

"The boys are doing very well and I know it is going to be very hard to get back in," Jack-

Having played only three

for me and I came back."

England winger Tony Daley until the end of the season. The 31-year-old, who rejoined the Watford manager, Graham Taylor, over the summer on a shortterm contract but had to undergo a thigh operation, has played in Watford's last three First Division games.

Alex Ferguson is doing his old club Aberdeen a favour by loaning them the Scotland Under-21 striker Alex Notman for the rest of the season.

Notman has been a regular scorer for Manchester United's reserves, but is down the pecking order behind the likes of Dwight Yorke, Andy Cole and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer. Ferguson has told Notman to get firstteam experience at Aberdeen ahead of a big push for a regular place in the United at Old Trafford pext season.

The Leeds United manager, David O'Leary, has moved to strengthen his side by signing the former Germany international Marco Haber on trial. The 27-year-old midfielder is unsettled at his current club. Las Palmas after being with the Spanish Second Division side for just six months despite the club battling for promotion.

The former Arsenal and Everton midfielder Anders Limpar has joined the US Major League Soccer club Colorado Rapids for the rest of the season. The Yugoslav coach Vujadin

the 1990-91 Italian title, wa ed to come back after a day but hired by Perugia yesterday. He replaces Ilario Castagner, who resigned on Monday. The former Aston Villa striker Savo Milosevic scored

after coming on as a substitute in Yugoslavia's 3-0 win over Malta in a Euro 2000 qualifier in Valletta yesterday. The Bundesliga side Bayer

Leverkusen have signed Landon Donovan, the American teenager whn was courted by other leading European teams. Asprilla up to his nld tricks, page 28

# STEWART Boskov, who led Sampdoria to

A word in your ear: The Australian pace bowler Glenn McGrath and England's captain, Alec Stewart, seem to be having communication problems during yesterday's first one-day final in Sydney

Reuters

#### **England** blew it, admits Stewart

BY KIERON DALEY in Sydney

THE ENGLAND captain, Alec Stewart, said his players had only themselves to blame after blowing a winning position in Wednesday's 10-run defeat by Australia in the opening final of the triangular series.

Stewart said England should have won the 50 overs day-night match after reaching 198 for 4 chasing 233. But Australia turned the game around by taking five wickets for six runs in 22 balls to take a 1-0 lead in the best-of-three finals.

"We did very well to lose it," Stewart said. "We shouldn't have lost that game. We needed 35 runs off eight overs with six wickets in hand. It was definitely a game we should have

"We've got to make sure we tighten up our cricket at the crunch times. Eighty percent of what we did was good but the nther 20 percent cost us the game," Stewart said. "If we can fix that 20 per cent we can definitely win back-to-back matches.

Stewart's opposite number, Sbane Warne, said he was rebeved to have won the match but paid tribute to his bowlers for the way they fought back "They [England] looked like they were going to coast home when they needed less than a run a ball," Warne said. "But I think we just created the pressure and forced them into bad sbots. That's the beauty of this current Australian side. We seem to be able to pull something out of the bag when we need to.

The only dismal note for Australia was that Michael Bevan, their top scorer with 69 not out, will miss the rest of the series after dislocating a finger while fielding.
Once Hussain had reckless-

ly charged Shane Warne and been stumped, England were knocked out of cruise control. and spluttered to a 10-run defeat with four balls remaining.

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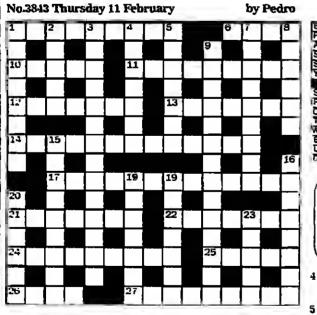
At one point, Hussain and Warne appeared to have a brief . verbal altercation in the middle, hut Stewart said he was not aware of "any battle of wits, or battle of words".

Warne was more forthcoming, however. The Australian captain revealed: "He hit me for a slog-sweep for four. I. said to him 'You are allowed to get one out of 20'. The next minute he kept going. I wasn't . exactly sure what was happening.

"He was pretty fired up but he's allowed to be, I suppose. In the end I was just glad to get him out; a pretty satisfying wicket. I was trying to get up his nose a little bit. He played a pretty ordinary shot as we were

applying the pressure." Match report, page 27

#### THE THURSDAY CROSSWORD



Smooth beach - standard around Portugal and Spain (9) Doctor returned to admit one in pain (4) 10 Less covered with

tree (5) 11 Elaborate red robe I'm to alter (9) 12 Island is source of drug used to restrict form of occupational hazard (7)

13 Copper sets about leader of demo with batons? (7) 14 Drunk heads for

Colour Pront, St Albary Read, Wattend

savoury food (7.6) 17 Supporter of this could be upset re Green "luna- 3 cy" (7,6) 21 Pop music that is seen

to have minimum of sonic range (7) Surprise rear nf fleet when entering a waterchannel (7) 24 Supporter of building has angry smile (9) trees, except for British 25 Very keen on absorbing

> overture (5) 26 What needs to be done in brief time as King (4) Slander? It angered Rocky (9)

composer's last

DOWN The result of applying oils to water? (8) Part of depression - a dire low point (5) Ground ill-appreciates

astronomical phenome-

Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 50 L, and printed at Micros

Motley number of Romans captured by power that is evil (7)

A hard point to get past a difficulty one gets with study (7) Notice theatrical worker, one making a speech (9) Brazen old crone bold-

ing knight up (6) Wastrel only breaking law when paid? (4-3-7) 15 Firm rattle of coins gets us awake (9) 16 Observed pattern.

silly, empty, terribly modern (8) 18 Most of the rest care to see part of London (4.3) 19 A penny snatched by old Italian tramp (7) 20 Set to introduce recipe,

Back some available from Historic Newspapers, 01968

prepared earlier? (8) 23 Extremist last month escaped, dropping

#### Metcalfe slams Scots' structure SCOTLAND'S FULL-BACK, RUGBY UNION

Glenn Metcalfe, admitted he may play his rugby elsewhere BY BRYN PALMER next season if officials cannot come up with a suitable struc-ture for the professional game to question the wisdom of the amalgamation of Glasgow and north of the border.

The New Zealander, who has lived in Glasgow for sever- Reivers fared slightly better but al years, is ready to leave if the still faltered on the verge of the super districts are not given a competitive fixture list.

Glasgow Caledonians' European Cup campaign through injury this season but proved his filmess sufficiently in the Welsh Rugby Union Challenge Trophy last month to win back his international place.

Last Saturday's Five Nations win over Wales was the 27-yearold's home debut after his first caps against Australia last summer, but Murrayfield may be the only venue Scottish rugby fans can catch him in future.

The Reds' disappointing

showing in the European Cup,

where they failed to reach the

knockout stages, has led many

amaigamation of Glasgow and the Caledonia Reds.

And while the Edinburgh quarter-finals, Metcalfe believes a return to a more regionalised Metcalfe missed much of structure may be the answer

"I still want to play rugby in Scotland but everything has to be right off the pitch for that to happen," he said yesterday. If it is anything like the structure this year, I am not sure I want to be part of it be-

ful rugby every week. "We had a great squad with Caley this year but even getting everyone together at one venue

cause I want to play meaning-

for training was difficult. "We all got on really well but we never really got the chance to create that club spirit with

people coming from all over. We

should have been taking teams

apart with the players we had but I think we lost a bit of that ropean Cup triumph has proclub feeling where you play the game and then go and have a drink together afterwards. "Instead we had people dri-

ving a couple of hours a day to get there and heading their separate ways afterwards." While talks are currently

taking place aimed at the creation of a possible "Celtic" or "Gaelic" league for next season,

Metcalfe: 'Added pressure'

back to four districts again." While his long-term future, like many other home-based players, remains uncertain for the time being, Metcalfe now has his sights fixed on Scotland's game at Twickenham next Saturday.

After the intensity of the opener against Wales, he admits the Five Nations experience lived up to his expectations.

ropean Cup triumph has pro-

vided a possible template for

change things so much to the

point where you are not enjoy-

ing the rugby," be added. "And

we need to find a different

structure. Maybe we should

go the way of the Irish and get

"Professionalism shouldn't

Scotland to follow.

"It was a big buzz for me, being my first Five Nations game, and speaking to a few people back in New Zealand afterwards all I could say to them was that it was more than just a game of rugby," he said.

pressure with there being only four matches and there is no leeway or margin for error.

"But I felt a Int calmer and more controlled beforehand because I do suffer from nerves. I was told to run the ball back at them as much as possible and I thought I did that OK."

Metcalfe took time out to give high-school children in Drumchapel - on the outskirts of Glasgow - a master class today alongside his Scotland team-mate Gordon Bulloch as part of a rugby initiative

throughout Scotland's schools. "It is good to come back and be involved in this kind of project," said Bulloch, who has risen through the ranks at district and national levels to be-

come his country's No I hooker "You come to schools like this and you can see the raw talent that is there. If even only one small child wants to take up the game and shows up, well, then it is worthwhile."

Yates cited,

A STATE OF STREET ीर अमार्थन का

# THURSDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION





### Kesign! Over his dead body

ate can be terribly cruel Just after Boris Yeltsin touched down, returning from King Hussein's funeral, his Ilyushin-96 presidential plane was in a collision. Its wing hit a jet carrying the Italian Prime Minister, reports said later that Rome's man was taxiing "contrary to instructions". Though the damage was slight, it was the final

England

blew it

admits

Stewart

humiliation in an expedition that was fraught with risk from the outset. Looking ill and disoriented. Boris Yeltsin spent less than three hours in Jordan before bolting home, leaving the world even more convinced that his days are numbered. The Russian papers were derisive. "Yeltsin did not make it to the grave but was very close to it," said Moskovski Komsomolets.

Why on earth did he go? His doctors warned against it. He was not particularly close to the King, and was certainly less involved in the Middle East than his Prime Minister, Yevgeny Primakov - the obvious choice as Russia's representative.

Moreover, his foreign ventures often produce disasters. No Yeltsin obituary will omit his failure to disembark from his plane in Ireland in 1994, or his erlin. As his physical and mental decline has steepened, these episodes have become less comic than sad, and more frequent.

In Sweden in late 1997, he caused astonishment by suggesting that the Japanese and Germans had nuclear weapons; in Uzbekistan last year, he almost keeled over in front of the TV cameras. The following day, in Kazakhstan, he looked astonishingly ashen a lost, drugged figure who seemed barely able to summon up the mental strength to sign a document. It took him 25 seconds to complete his signature; then he shuffled out, after mumbling angrily about

the press telling lies. So: why did he go to the funeral? The answer is part personality and part politics. It was the desperate act of a leader worried about his diminished status on the world stage. It was also that of a politicion badly irked by evidence that another - Mr Pri-

makov - has stealthily taken the reins of power. Boris Yeltsin cares much about how history will view him. Entwined deep within his complex character is a fear that he will be remembered not as a world statesman, who - in his winning, rough-hewn isc, but as someone who failed to grow much beyond his roots as a Siberian party boss, whose actions were primarily determined by an instinct to survive - just like other former party apparatchild who still control the power and perks across many of Russia's regions.

A year ago, he could have expected better. Reforms and privatisation (although appallingly cor-

Boris Yeltsin is a hobbled figure on the world stage. He has survived double pneumonia, bronchitis, heart trouble and a bleeding ulcer, yet he is a political corpse, hated at home, a laughing stock abroad. And the vultures are hovering. So why is he hanging on to power?

Predictions of civil war and revolution had proved wrong. Yeltsin had returned to power in an election which, by post-Soviet standards, was clean-ish (although there were campaign finance violations and grossly biased media coverage). The war in Chechnya remained unforgiven by Russians, but in the West - which generally paid it far too little attention in the first place - it was quickly being forgotten. There was a chance that history would be generous, remembering him as the defiant figure who bravely confronted hardline coup plotters in 1991 from the turret of a tank.

Now, the best of these achievements are in ruins. Tens of thousands of skilled, young, urban Russians, the beginnings of a consumer middle class, are jobless. The rouble is worth a quarter of its value in mid-1998; Russia has - at least for the time being - alienated the international financial community.

The nation's misery is measured by a pulse of individual tragedies: a pensioner who immolated himself on Red Square; rampaging soldiers who slaughter their comrades and themselves with amazing regularity; thieves who cut off the hair of bus passengers to sell it; workers paid not in cash but in loo rolls or canned food; countless children begging on the streets; three girls - not one older than 14 - who, after writing a suicide note, on Monday hurled themselves to their deaths from an eighth-storey window. (Whatever their motives - be they unrequited love or a cult's influence - this horror says much about the alienation of youth, parenthood, and a derelict education system.)

If you explore the wreckage, the charitably minded can still find reasons to give credit to the President. Today's Russians can say and read what they like; and - for the minority with the money can travel freely. In contrast to the United States. the world's chief sermoniser on human rights,

Russia has suspended capital punishment. Yet this is overshadowed by larger problems. Boris Yeltsin is hated at home - three-quarters of his population want to see him impeached - and regarded with a mixture of pity and dismay abroad. In his twilight years, he can counter this only by resorting to a tactic at which he used to be a maestro grand, unexpected stunts.

There was a trace of this in St Petersburg last summer when he appeared at the reburial of rupt) were staggering along. The rouble was stable. Nicholas II and his family. But, as the Jordan fiasco



Top, Yeltsin struggles to get up after a meeting at the Kremlin. Above, Yevgeny Primakov, Russia's 'de facto' leader

proved, his touch has deserted him. He has acquired the air of an ageing actor, long ago stripped of the lead, who keeps blundering out of the wings in the hope of stealing into a spotlight occupied by others. In reality, Boris Yeltsin's presidency ended five months ago, after he sacked his government (led by the 36-year-old Sergei Kiriyenko) - the second to go within a few months - after it had announced a default of foreign and domestic debts and aban-

#### BY PHIL REEVES

doned the battle to defend the rouble. His final demise came when the State Duma, the lower house, rejected his nomination for prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, who had already done the job before - dismally, in the eyes of most Russians. A compromise candidate, Yevgeny Primakov, the Foreign Minister, was ushered in, posing as a loyal servant who was too old (69, a year older than Mr Yeltsin) to have any greater ambitions. Humiliated, the President retired to the shadows, in which he has hidden for much of his second term, wrestling with illness.

Since then Mr Primakov has seized the initiative, steadily securing the status of Russia's "de facto"

leader. After a cautious start, his presidential aspirations have grown more blatant. He has assiduously wooed the Duma's powerful Communists, and has courted regional leaders, both key power bases. Allies from his days as foreign intelligence chief have been planted in strategic jobs. At his back stands a government that has little sympathy for the Kremlin or its occupant, but plenty for Soviet methods.

When Mr Primakov first took over the Premier's job, Mr Yeltsin appeared resigned to life in the twilight; his aides conceded that he was no longer governing day to day but was working on constitutional issues. His weekly radio addresses stopped, and his staged appearances on TV grew rarer.

But what he cannot have expected - and clearly resents - is the manner in which Mr Primakov has turned his firepower on the Kremlin itself. The Premier has launched a campaign against the oligarchic Boris Berezovsky, a friend of Mr Yeltsin's influential daughter Tatyana, a man who until recently could make or break a government. Two companies - affiliates of the oil conglomerate Sibneft, and Aeroflot - linked to the tycoon were raided by police amid allegations that he was running a private intelligence-gathering operation which spied on the Kremlin.

Nor was the President amused when Mr Primakov went to parliament flourishing a deal in which Mr Yeltsin would get immunity from prosecution in retirement and an end to the (largely symbolic) impeachment proceedings against him in return for an agreement not to dissolve the legislature or sack the government. The President rejected the offer with warnings that he was not about to give away any of his constitutional powers.

Throughout, Mr Primakov has insisted that he has no desire for the top job. But there is a sense, hard to pimpoint, but palpable, that he is quietly being anointed as the heir to the Kremlin, as the monolithic forces that shape the land - the minerals monopolies, the regional élite, the media – gradually coalesce around him. A transfer of power, a murky process in which the ballot box will play but a minor role, is under way. So much for democracy.

This impression is underscored by most of the other likely contenders for the Kremlin who - for all their shrillness - do not seem ready to do battle. General Alexander Lebed, governor of Krasnoyarsk, like lurch on to the stage.

is collapsing beneath the weight of running a vast Siberian region. Russia's democrats - a muchabused term embracing Thatcherite economists, liberal democrats and non-ideological super-rich with fortunes to defend - have proved incapable of unity, and are too widely disliked to have a hope.

It is questionable whether Gennady Zyuganov, the leader of the Communists, and runner-up at the last election, really wants the presidency. He runs the only nationwide political party, and can still expect to muster the support of one in five Russian voters. Yet true power could quickly shatter the coalition of Stalinists, mouth-frothing nationalists and progressive socialists who stand behind him. Given the sums of money at stake in Russia, and the national habit of settling scores with a Kalashnikov, his life would be at risk.

Only one man, the formidable mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov, seems genuinely keen to compete for the presidency.

Thus, for now, Boris Yelisin is tolerated. Critically, this allows him to fulfil one of his goals, again with an eye to history. By completing his term, he takes another step towards ensuring that the constitution - a document that he forced through in a suspect 1993 referendum, and which is still widely ignored - becomes law. It is an issue about which he really seems to care.

For many months, Western TV crews have been on death watch in Moscow, confined to the capital. For months, obituaries have been ready in newspaper offices around the world. Yet, though a political corpse, Boris Yeltsin is not dead yet. He has been under assault from an array of conditions that would floor many another, which - if the Kremlin is to be believed - include double pneumonia, bronchitis, heart trouble, a bleeding ulcer, colds, flu and throat afflictions. But it is not impossible that he will follow the example of another equally accomplished boozer, Winston Churchill, whose heart and health caused his doctor concern from before the start of the war. He died at 91 - a decade after his resignation in 1955, much of which time was spent staring into a coal fire with a rug on his knees.

Sick though he is, Boris Yeltsin could stagger on for a while yet. Certainly, his aides - led now by a former KGB general - are trying to discourage those full-time mourners who have long been wringing their hands at their boss's graveside. This week a senior Kremlin official said that there would be more outings to France, Germany and - perilously, given the distance and conditions - to Africa and Latin

America, before his term ends in mid-2000. Russians, fearful of more embarrassment, will pray that he stays at home. So will the Moscow political establishment, and his sympathisers in the West. But this is a man with a famously perverse nature. Those are just the sort of sentiments that will encourage Boris Veltsin to make one more Lear-

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#### Rethink law reform

Sir: The Access to Justice Bill is set to revolutionise legal aid, from which 3.5 million people benefited last vear.

For the first time its budget is to be capped and citizens denied free choice amongst competent solicitors willing to take their cases. Further, since criminal legal aid is to have budget priority, civil legal aid will only get what is left.

The Lord Chancellor was right when he told the Bar Conference in 1996 that "cost capping is unattractive in principle [and] would in practice become a discretionary benefit, available at bureaucratic disposal; a benefit which would have to be disallowed when the money ran out  $\dots$  ".

The highly dirigiste system by which the Legal Services Commission will keep within the cap will reduce the 10,600 solicitors' offices which currently do legal aid to about 3,000 quality-assured firms. This will be primarily achieved by competitive hlock tendering, which, according to classical wholesaling assumptions, will enable the commission to buy bulk legal services at cut prices.

This is, however, cloud-cuckoo land (especially since the Government claims that quality will not be affected). Legal aid is already the lowest-paying work done by solicitors, yielding roughly half what private client work returns.

If all that is not enough, money claims (particularly personal injury ones) are to be excluded from legal aid on the basis that poor claimants can in future find solicitors to act under conditional fee agreements. But solicitors woo't want difficult or low-value cases, and with soaring premiums for costs insurance, and pre-agreement costs to pay for, thousands of people will lose their chance of redress.

It is not even as if the Legal Aid budget is any longer "out of control". The existing regime has largely taken care of that and could go further if available checks and balances were better used.

The Law Society, the Bar Council, the Legal Action Group, the Legal Aid Practitioners Group and many experienced Labour lawyers are urging the Government to think again. It would be greatly to their credit if they did. Lord PHILLIPS OF SUDBURY House of Lords London SW1

#### A leader for London

Sir: David Aaronovitch's line that anyone who is not New Labour is irresponsible and like a teenager is no argument at all ("These rebels may be game for a laugh, but they're good for nothing", 9 February). Many of us support Ken Livingstone because we have long memories, not short ones. He got things done and he had a transport policy. For people who try to get about London, that is as important as his lokes.

I am surprised Aaronovitch did not observe that Livingstone . supporters do not wash their milk bottles. Perhaps he ran out of space. JOAN CLANCHY London NW6

Sir: The saga of Ken Livingstone's thwarted attempts to stand as mayor of London clearly illustrates a fundamental point. elections are only one obvious element of a functioning democracy. The system by which parties select candidates is at least as important, since it determines how much of a meaningful choice the electorate is given. The Labour leadership has

accelerated a trend of removing selection powers from publicly accessible bodies and centralizing them within the private executive. This should be of grave concern to all those concerned about the quality of British democracy. GILES BURGESS Seattle, Washington, USA

Sir: Your report that inner London "heads the wealth league" (10 Fehruary) is misleading. Inner London may be the top producer of

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Winter in Moscow No 4: Yuri receiving treatment for frostbite at a medical clinic for homeless people. There are an estimated 100,000 homeless people in Moscow, in temperatures averaging -20°C

wealth, but its inhabitants are far from being the richest. Inner London contains some of

the poorest areas in Britain. Indeed, of the 20 poorest boroughs in Britain, 14 are in London. While Londoners earn more, the

cost of living is higher, with the effect that the standard of living in the capital is below the UK average. JEFFREY ARCHER (Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare) House of Lords London SW1

#### Zinoviev secret

Sir: May I add a memory to the history of the Zinoviev letter, which has just been produced by Gill Bennet, Chief Historian at the Foreign Office (report, 4 February)?

About 40 years ago I had dinner with Lord Davison. He had been the right-hand man and closest intimate of Stanley Baldwin. He had also been Bonar Law's link with the secret service. He knew I was Guy Kindersley's grandson. He told me the following story.

Zinoviev letter through his secret service involvement. He knew my grandfather was explosively anti-Communist and could be relied on to make a great fuss if he were to hear of it. Davidson therefore arranged for Donald im Thurn. a former MI5 agent and a director of a City company, to take the letter to Guy Kindersley his "trusted friend in the City" just before the

Kindersley, also the Conservative MP for Hitchin, unaware of im Thurn's connection with Davidson, took the letter to the Daily Mail, with devastating results for the Labour Party at the 1924 election. Davidson told me how delighted be and Baldwin were when Kindersley berated them for doing nothing about the Zinoviev letter

1924 election.

It seems that Baldwin and Davidson used a willing Donald im Thurn to cover their tracks. He wrote to Conservative Central

Office about the payoff to a fichhous source of the leak that had disappeared to Argentina!

The redeeming feature of this outrageous conspiracy is that everyone involved thought the letter was real. They believed they were acting in the national interest. The interests of the Conservative Party were ruthlessly pursued under that banner. The Rev PAUL NICHOLSON Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire

#### Mad scientist

Sir: "Any religion sounds barking mad except to those brought up in it," writes Professor Dawkins (letter, 9 February). However, he fails to mention that most areas of science sound equally barking mad".

"I am the product of a fish" doesn't sound totally sensible, and yet the theory of evolution relies oo it. This letter arrived by e-mail at The Independent's offices because millions of tiny particles, which aren't always particles hut are sometimes waves, vibrated down a Davidson became aware of the piece of copper and were converted into words by a piece of silicon. Sound "barking mad"? It

If those brought up in a religion believe something that is "barking

Sir: Please can somebody

explain the difference between

mad", how much more those that are "converted" to the faith of modern-day science! TIM SHORT

Department of Engineering University of Reading

Sir: More fun from Richard Dawkins! You could play his game with anything-let's say symphony concerts. A lot of people sit in a semi-circle, for some reason in evening dress. They start hitting things and blowing down metal tubes. Some have wooden female bodies between their knees and stroke them with rods. A man at the front nearly goes berserk waving a stick and none of them looks at him. Noises arise unlike any beard elsewhere in the buman

or animal kingdom. At the end, the spectators make a sound with their hands and everyone goes bome. Other subjects: climbing Mount Everest: biochemistry labs. If you stop publishing Dawkins. I'll cancel The Independent. He's

better than Tommy Cooper. JOHN POWELL WARD Horton Kirby, Kent Sir: It is a pity that Richard

Dawkins couldn't be bothered to find out what Christianity teaches. The point of Jesus' death was to pay for our sin. We all sin and no

one (except Jesus) has led a perfect life, You only need to look at one of the papers to see that.

It was by Jesus's sacrifice of himself that my sin has been paid for I wonder who Professor Dawkins wishes to pay for his own sin-it'll either be himself or Jesus.

And there are plenty of Christians, like myself, who were not brought up in it. GRAHAM POINTER St Andrews, Fife

#### Little pets

Sir: Why do people have children? Let us be honest. Children in Britain are conceived because social convention and prospective grandparents demand it, through genuine error, through fecklessness, following a surfeit of alcohol, because of neurotic need, or because some people love children (or think they do until they've got one). Also, as Terence Blacker points out (Comment. 9 February), they are desired as

designer accessories or pets. In the light of these motivations, how can Jean Molloy (Letter, 9 February), maintain that child-rearing is a 'social" and not an individual project? Does she really believe that intending (or unintending) parents are thinking

heen a haven of rare breadth and depth amid the wastes of shallow pop and pap. At the second attempt – the first was defeated by a listener backlash - Parfitt has banished this from its established

of England? No, sir, even those

who carefully and thoughtfully

children - and that is just as it

selfish motives - they want

should be.

plan their families act from purely

Many of the dire social problems

we are creating for ourselves could

be largely avoided if people asked

themselves exactly why they were

attention to the purchase of a car or

a cardigan than we do to one of the

most solemnly responsible and

the production of a new person.

Kershaw's move

Sir: In his dismally uncritical puff

for Andy Parfitt ("They're playing our tune again", 9 February), Rhys

Williams overlooks the controller

Andy Kershaw's world music

evening slot to the wee small hours

after midnight. Very considerate of

him, for those of us who work 9 to 5.

someone who a quoted as opposing schedule changes that

muck about with "familiar voices

the BBC is supposed to give us

quality and variety. Surely one

measly two-hour slot per week

at a civilized hour, to cover a

to be the music of most of our

even from the narrow-minded

ratings-chaser that Partitt is

AIDAN FOSTER-CARTER

Shipley, West Yorkshire

oddly proud to be.

(barely 1 per cent of total output)

thriving genre which just happens

planet, is not too much to expect

. embedded ... in people's lives."

As a public service hroadcaster,

And pretty hypocritical for

and roots programme has long

PETER GALBRAITH

m his relentless drive

of his namesake.

for dehydration.

I applied for disability benefit. I was asked such questions as "Can you walk nostairs?" (physical health OK) and "Can you answer a telephone?" (mental health OK). I was refused benefits and told to find a job. It occurred to me afterwards that everyone in the waiting room had walking sticks. Silly me. JULL SOUTHWARK Birminaham

#### Desert war threat

Sir: On 11 February the UN peace mission in the Western Sahara may be withdrawn. If it is, war will almost certainly ensue there within days.

The UN mission is in the area attempting to maintain a ceasefire between the occupation forces of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario, who represent the indigenous people of the area, the Saharawi. The UN's other task was to oversee a referendum on the future of the territory, forcibly occupied by Morocco in 1975, a referendum that Morocco agreed to in 1997 hut which it has refused to implement.

The UN Secretary-General cites a "lack of political will" on the part of the Moroccan authorities for the breakdown in the situation, But Moroccan "will" to stay in military occupation of the Western Sahara is bolstered by a £5 per annum handout from every man woman and child in the UK, via the EU aid budget. The £280m involved is used by the Moroccan authorities through hudgetary transfers to ease the £1m per day cost of the military occupation of the Western Sahara.

Morocco is hugely dependent on British and European tourism. If war breaks out in the Western Sahara it may well spread throughout Morocco and the other countries in the region. I would ask your readers, many of whom vacation in Morocco, to consider these facts when deciding on this year'a holiday destination. Lord WISE House of Lords London SWI

#### Control of the Net

Sir: In his Right of Reply (8 February). John Carr castigates libertarians who oppose government regulation of the Internet as nihilistic and cynical. He then states that while he has no wish to interfere with whatever adults may choose to view, there : has to be protection for children.

I oppose government regulation of the Net not because I wish to plumb the depths of depravity, but because as an adult I am capable of exercising my own judgement. As a parent, I don't want my daughter viewing material I consider inappropriate. I will therefore supervise her use of the Net until she has sufficient judgement and maturity to decide for herself. I would rather take the trouble to do this than rely on government. ... DAVE AMIS initiating pregnancies. We pay more

Stanford le Hope, Essex

#### Third World rights potentially wonderful acts possible,

Sir: Professor Kenneth Minogue's racist polemic, "Arguing the case" for the nation state" (Podium 5 February) must be rejected aspost-imperialist nonsense. His suggestion that the peoples of Africa "most notably lack" certain "invisible moral virtues" possessed by "us in the West" is absurd. Globalisation exacerbates of Radio 1's crowning achievement inequalities of wealth but not for the reasons suggested by downmarket. I refer to the shafting Professor Minogue. War economies are not the monopoly of any one country or region.

A front-page article in the same issue ("Rebuke for Cook over Sierra Leone") refers to the "arms to Sierra Leone affair". The global arms bazaar has more to do with: current economic crises than the presence or absence of any moral virtues".

"Democracy, I have no doubt is doomed," says Professor Minogue." The end of apartheid in South Africa is evidence to the contrary. Notwithstanding the persistence of racism, even among some intellectuals, fundamental human rights are universal and must be constantly defended against those who claim the superiority of Western" civilisation. ANTHONY H RICHMOND Emeritus Professor of Sociology York University. Toronto

#### Pass the word ...

Sir: Time to hoddle Chris Woodhead, I think. JULIE BRINTON

the Iraqi civilians killed by American and British rockets, and the Albanian/Kossovan civilians killed by the Yugoslav and Serbian military? For the life of me I cannot find a moral difference. **JGILHAM** Augaaneur, France

Sir: Is the derivation of the word "dosh" really unknown (letter, 6 February)? Since visiting Portugal, I've thought that it came from the Portuguese unit of currency. the escudo. Portuguese is an

#### IN BRIEF

pronounce and listen to - it manages to be sibilant, nasal guttural and elliptical at the same time. "Escudos" is pronounced "skoo-dosh" and sometimes the "dosh" is all you bear. Mrs RUTH GRIMSLEY Sheffield

Sir: I admire people managing to obtain benefits ("We make no apologies for our tough benefits regime", 10 February). I am 56 and have worked

throughout my adult life. Recently I had cancer. chemotherapy and radiotherapy, then shingles and a spell in hospital

#### Macclesfield, Cheshire

You say genetically modified tomato - and I say no SO. WHAT'S all this genetic engineering, then?

I beg your pardon? This genetic engineering.

What's it all about, then? Oh, you mean, this business of trying to isolate the gene for schizophrenia or homosexuality or baldness, or whatever you disapprove

of, and trying to eliminate it? My goodness! I didn't know tomaioes were ever homosexual or

Ah, tomatoes! You're not talking about people. You're talking about genetic modification of vegetables and crops.

Yes. And it's always tomatoes. for some reason. Nobody ever seems to get into n pickle about apples or oranges, only tomatoes.

Probably because more people ate a wonderful national cuisine.

tomatoes than any other vegetable. so they see it as a kind of private preserve. Touch my tomato and you touch my soul. An Englishman's home is his greenhouse. We see tomatoes as very British - even though they come from abroad.

From Italy, you mean? No. no. no. They went to Italy. But they originally came from South America, from the Andes. Where potatoes also came from.

Good heavens. So. before 1492 European culture survived entirely without the help of spuds or tomatoes?

Extraordinary. Not so extraordinary as the fact that in the years since 1492 the Italians have used the tomato to cre-

in Britain try to grow their own and the Americans have used it to create nothing but ketchup. And it is these very same Amer-

icans who now want to alter the tomato? I think so

And why do they want to alter tomatoes genetically?

To make them last longer. To resist disease. To make them redder and shinier and higger. All the things that supermarkets like. If they could genetically alter them to make them square and easier to pack. they would.

And tastier, too, and cheaper presumably? No. Supermarkets aren't inter-

ested in making things tastier. Or even cheaper. So how do supermarkets want to change things?

By making them more conve-



#### **MILES KINGTON**

'Touch my tomato and you touch my soul. An Englishman's home is his greenhouse'

nient. What appeals to a super-

market is a stack of tomatoes

lying very near a stack of washing

powders and not far from the crisos and biscuits. Could n tomato be genetically engineered to be near washing powders and crisps?

Not vet Could n customer be genetically altered to prefer tomatoes in su-

No. He doesn't have to be. It is aiready done through cultural condilioning. A customer is gradually

led to believe over the years that tomatoes in supermarkets are cheaper, better and tastier than what you get in the local shop. And are they? Of course not. They don't have

to be. As long as the customer thinks they are, it doesn't matter whether they actually are or not. So you're against genetic engistarted as new products once. Hold on, hold on! I'll give her Pot

Not necessarily. I'm just against supermarket philosophy. I agree with TV chef Anthony Wortall Thompson, who urged supermarkets to stop filling their shelves with new products that nobody wants. like disgusting lemon-flavoured creams in aerosols, and give more space to fresh food. I agree with him and I disagree with Moira Hilliam.

Who is Moira Hilliam?

She is a market intelligence manager for new food products who says, in to Tuesday's Evening Standard: "Mr Worrall Thompson is entitled to his opinion, but it is worth noting that a lot of products that started out as being weird and wonderful are now part of the mainstream Yoghurt, Pot Noodles, soya sauce and even curry all

Noodles, and she's welcome, but is she saying that yoghurt and curry and soya sauce started life as a product? A spokesperson for supermarkets is unaware that all these things were in existence hundreds of years before supermarkets arrived? In the form of real food?

She isn't a spokesperson. She is a market intelligence officer. Do you think a supermarket spokesperson can ever be genetically modified to acquire super-

intelligence? Not in our lifetime. I fear.

OF YOU want to know more, send for our leaflet, "OK, I May Go and Spend a Fortune Once a Week at . Sainsbury's Or Tesco, But That Doesn't Mean I Approve of What I'm Doing".)

#### \*THE INDEPENDENT

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#### A cautious proposal caught up in some damaging spin

ONCE UPON a time, welfare reform was going to be New Labour's big idea. It was all about "thinking the unthinkable". It was to be the Government's abiding legacy, on a historical par with old-age pensions and the National Heath Service. Then reality set in. Frank Field and Harriet Harman were sacked and Social Security was handed to the pragmatic Alistair Darling, a shrewd man who will not fall into the elephant trap of "big bang", welfare reform. For that, at least, we should be grateful.

Many of Mr Darling's proposals are modest, if rather offensively oversold by the spin doctors. This is not the "tough welfare crackdown" it is made out to be. The unemployed can already lose Jobseeker's Allowance if they turn down a reasonable offer of work. The new "single gateway" means that no claimant will stay on benefit unless he or she attends a "back-to-work" interview every five years. That should not be too onerous.

The Government is right to help people with disabilities and lone parents into work, if - and only if - that is what they are able to do. But providing quality advice, subsidising the child-care costs of lone parents who want to work, and investing in people with disabilities, will cost the Government more money, even though it would be cash well spent. Far too many intelligent and talented disabled people remain excluded from the jobs market. We haven't heard much about such things.

But what is truly insidious is not the detail of Mr Darling's policies, but some of their underlying assumptions, assumptions carried over from the Tories, and revealed by colourful spin.

Given all the soundbites about "something-for-nothing dependency", one would think that, to use the economist's jargon, there was no such thing as involuntary unemployment. Ministers talk as though the johs really were there for the unemployed if only they could be persuaded to take them. But if unemployment could be solved by increasing the frequency of patronising "restart" interviews and the like, we should have seen full employment long ago. What really affects unemployment, as Mr Darling's colleague Mr Byers pointed out last week, is the health of the economy, entrepreneurship, competition, and education and training (the high-quality variety, that is).

Another assumption abroad is that all lone parents ought to be at work. Mr Darling should say, clearly, that lone parents' choice to remain at home with their children is something to be respected, not resented. The balance between work and care can only be struck by the individual. .

Mr Darling should not spoil his pragmatic approach by spreading silly slogans about the true nature of unemployment. The cycle of "something-for-nothing" soundbites



#### Prosperity is the best means of birth control

TAKEN AT face value, the figures are terrifying. In a few months' time, the world's population will reach 6 billion, having doubled in less than 40 years. It took all of history until 1804 for humankind to chalk up its first billion. Adding a sixth one has taken just 12 years and, according to data presented to the current UN Population Forum in The Hague, world population will cease growing only around 2200, when it will have reached 11 billion. That is assuming that climatic catastrophe, environmental collapse or military Armageddon has not already put us out of our overcrowded misery.

But there is no reason to despair. For one thing, the population explosion reflects well, not badly, on our species. It has been caused not by some malign genetic failure, but by

sanitation and health care that have increased wealth and life expectancy beyond the dreams of even 100 years ago.

Second, history, and above all the history of this ever-fasterforward century, is littered with false predictions of apocalypse. Not long before it began, wise souls were forecasting that on then current trends in public transport, London would soon be buried under several feet of horse manure. Two decades ago, we were being warned of how only coal and nuclear energy could prevent an energy shortage that would halt economic expansion in its tracks. Today, the oil price stands at less than a third of its 1979 level, nuclear power is discredited, and boundless reserves of far cleaner natural gas have sent the coal industry the way of the horse-drawn carriage. And now the micro-processor and the microchip: a third industrial revolution still in its infancy, which will surely make it easier, in ways we can hardly imagine, for this much-abused planet to accommodate still more of us.

Even so, simple Micawberism is not enough. We cannot we can live in happiness and dignity

trust for ever that some technological deus ex machina will save us from our fecundity. Nor have we in the developed world the right to demand that the poorer two-thirds of humanity forgo the economic wealth we enjoy, in the interests of the ozone layer and of preventing global warming. Indeed, as demographers tirelessly point out, nothing is as effective in reducing the size of Third-World families as rising living standards. Growth, in short, must be encouraged. The question is, what sort of growth?

Clearly, the developing world cannot take the old smokestack road to riches. Even this long-suffering Earth could not tolerate everyone in India and China generating as much waste and pollution as the average American (or, indeed, Briton). But there is nothing intrinsically wrong with a world with 6 billion cars and 6 billion fridges. What is essential is that they do not damage the ozone layer and raise carbon monoxide levels. And the same principle applies for human beings. It matters not how many of us there are - but whether

### So whose fault is it, Mr Campbell, if the press is obsessed with trivia?

IT WAS during the last general election, and we on the Tony Blair campaign battle hus bad reached Stevenage. Or was it Basildon? Whatever: we were inside one of those modern community theatres that usually host bingo, t'ai chi and Eddie Izzard. hut whose car park was at this moment home to The Five (colourful) Pledges of New Labour, each blown up to gigantic size and mounted on the back of a lorry.

M. P. ABRITICA

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Jan 4. 15

The smiling leader of the opposition was walking through a crowd of strategically placed nurses, schoolchildren and victims of youth crime. As he progressed, a very left-wing woman journalist pointed at the tall figure of Alastair Campbell (following his leader, eyes darting hither and you like a Secret Service bodyguard), and confided to me, sotto voce, that she would like to rip the press secretary's clothes off and subject him to a strenuous off-the-record hriefing.

This was one incident from that marging that sticks in my memory. I don't mention it purely to irritate Alastair with my taste for triviality, but also because it came minutes before he shepherded us into an administrator's office and gave us a welldeserved telling-off. There had been a inal Labour wobble following questioning about the privatisation of air traffic control, and this was threatening to become a "Story", instead of just a story (the latter lasts a day or so and then fades; the former goes on interminably while everyone examines every word, nuance and dusthin). Campbell reminded us (in sorrow, not anger) of our democratic duty.

I rather agreed with him then, and I rather agree with him now. On Thesday night he made a speech, about the relationship between the printed press and broadcasting media, that urged broadcasters not to follow a news agenda created by the newspapers. He loved newspapers, he said, but there were things that they did not do that broadcasters shouldand things that newspapers did that no one should do. The end result was gossip, trivia, a lack of proper explanation, a skewing of stories and a "delusion" about what the country was interested in.

The Government, and particularly No 10, is a bit frustrated at the moment. It feels that its good news - such as what appears to be the extraordinary success of the New Deal in cutting youth unemployment - is completely ignored. At the same time, it has lost three ministers recently, amid classical journalistic feeding frenzies, and has endured a month of baiting over perks and flights. The icularly miffed that he went to South Africa and made a very statespersonlike speech about when to intervene militarily, and all the British press could ask him about was Charlie Whelan (Charlie? Used to work for Gordon Brown, now a newspaper

columnist OK?) Messrs Campbell and Blair are also very worried about Europe. In the Major years, the issue of the EU was hijacked by the Eurosceptic press, whose agenda (though not necessarily their views) was then followed by radio and TV. On Tuesday, Campbell



#### DAVID AARONOVITCH

Labour has done little to encourage the type of journalism it says it wants to see more of

gave the example of the recent Vienna summit, which was said by the BBC to be "overshadowed" by the issue of tax harmonisation. In reality, he pointed out, it wasn't. But harmonisation had been the great scare run by the Daily Mou et al in me previous formignt.

One day - soon, probably - Blair knows that he and the bonkers Europhobes of The Sun, The Times and the Mail are going to fall out in nuclear fashion. In those circumstances, as they press Portillo redux on a resisting making the PM will need the BBC to be telling its own tale of Europe, not that provided by two-thirds of Fleet Street. And it is essential that he speak

directly to the country. Campbell is not a silly man. When he accuses the press of being driven by trivia and of an "evasion of the real state of Britain", he knows also that

readers are a problem. I began this article with the lusting woman journalist because I calculated that some of you, who have got this far, may have done so because of her. Nor is this to be deprecated. We all want a tale. As the late Raphael Samuel pointed out in his book, Theatres of Memory, the people's history tends to he a series of stories, narratives of gory and disastrous happenings, rather than a statistical analysis.

pure story creation have been atrophying in recent years. When I first worked on the cerebral (and not overwatched) Weekend World programme in the early Eighties, there was a corps of specialist newspaper journalists that one could call upon. There were experts on welfare, health, the law, and transport. There were even local government specialists who understood how councils were financed; now no one does. Campbell is right to stress the importance of encouraging explanation through such specialisms.

But he may care to reslect that. Labour itself has, for far too long, been riding the back of the tiger. Much Westminster trivia originates with the politicians, and their minions, themselves. They habitually trot up and down the press corridors, indulging in inane goosly about each other and about the Tories. And it was Tony Banks and Margaret Hodge who really helped to give the despicable anti-Hoddle bandwagon a shove, before the PM's own remarks on This Morning. Likewise, the "tough" spin on the asylum and welfare stories in the last couple of days seems to owe something to a desire to grab Mail and Sun headlines.

And Alastair may also want to ask himself just how much he has done to encourage the journalism he says he wants to see. How has, say, The Independent been treated when compared to The Sun? Have the serious TV current affairs shows received the co-operation they need? When I was editor of On the Record, I waited in vain for nearly two years for the Nevertheless, the alternatives to shadow employment secretary to come and explain himself (live and unedited) on my show. His name was

So are we now going to see more of Gordon on Newsnight, more Prezza on On the Record, more Prime Minister on Jonathan Dimbleby? Will priority be given to specialist journalists asking hard policy questions, rather than to briefing the backs in the lobby? Can we expect to have constant. encouragement for those who seek to facilitate a robust debate, and a little hit less time for those who can't even

spen the word 'debate": Above all, will the Government take us all a bit more into its confidence, and accept the intellectual challenge of discussing rather than spioning its policies? Campbell is right about cynicism in the press, and I can assure him It is nearly as bad among broadcasters. If he is sincere in wanting an intelligent discussion, and not just an easy ride (and I believe that he is), then both he and his boss will have to start taking a few more risks, putting it about more. And if he does that, then - just perhaps - even I would be willing to sleep with him.

conservative opposition raising

the issue than to leave it to an

extremist fringe, even though

racism forms an undeniable

current in the stream of oppos-

ition. The point, though, is that

the Christian Democrats are

wrong. Setting limits on

immigration is one thing;

allowing foreigners to move to

your country and then keeping

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"This marks an end of a something-for-nothing welfare state." Tony Blair, Prime Minister

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Sir Hugh Casson

British architect

"The British love permanence more than they love beauty."

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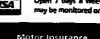


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signed the Christian Democrats' petition reject dual Fronkfurter Allgemeine Zeitnationality as a general rule. ung, Germany They will not accept the Free Democrats' model, even if thia would allow dual nationality only for a limited period. The country that is home to a multichange of government in Hesse has made a deep impression on the coalition. Social Democrats already appear to be distancing themselves from their revolutionary Bill. They will not give in completely until

THE MILLION people who they realise that the CDU and the CSU will not waver.

> THIS REFORM is astonishing. But it does conform with a cultural society; it has had to appease the dramas that have arisen from the matter of immigration. Germany has shown that she knows how to be generous: what other western European country has opened

#### **MONITOR**

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD International comment on the German

government's new policy on citizenship its gates to refugees from ex- crat position on dual nationality.

Le Monde, France

Yugoslavia?

The SPD is saddled with a government that has to work with Green demands, rather THERE IS support within the than genuine Social Democrat

Die Welt, Germany

EVERY COUNTRY has a right to debate the questions of what

thought that it would be best to

deal with Green issues at the

beginning of the legislative

period; that's when govern-

ments are at their strongest.

But he cannot have suspected

that these issues could cause

such rapid and lasting damage.

them as second-class citizens constitutes belonging, loyalty is another. That is unjust and and citizenship. It may be bet- in the long run untenable. SPD for the Christian Demo- issues. Schröder probably ter to have the mainstream. The Washington Post, US

#### **PANDORA**

DESPITE THE mugging of the former Secretary of State for Wales, Ron Davies, on Clapham Common last October, the open spaces of south London hold no fear for the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, who regularly goes jogging in Battersea Park. Mr Straw revealed details of his venturesome exercise routine to MPs this week at the Home Affairs Select Committee police recruitment hearing. when he observed that police patrolling required a high level of physical fitness. The committee chairman. Chris Mullin, quipped: "You probably qualify, running round Battersea Park." The Labour MP Martin Linton was sceptical. "Tve yet to see you," he said jealously. 'Tve got witnesses," protested Mr Straw, surely referring to the privately run Wandsworth Borough Parks Police, who have replaced the boys in hlue in patrolling the area.

PADDY ASHDOWN, the outgoing Lib Dem leader, has hit upon a cunning wheeze to occupy those who are anxious to fill his shoes. He is devolving many of the huge number of invitations he receives to the leadersin-waiting. Snch invitations include the opening of school fêtes and an offer for Paddy to appear in a pop video. There is now a vast number of Lib Dem MPs who are ready to scrap amonest themselves for crumbs from the captain's timetable, Pandora's inquiries have found that the list of wannabes runs to a football team. The 11 are: Jackie Ballard; Malcolm Bruce: Menzies Campbell: Don Foster: Nick Harvey: Simon Hughes; Charles Kennedy; David Rendel; Matthew Taylor, Phil Willis; and a late entry from Eastleigh MP David Chidgey, who was "coy" on the leadership bid.

according to his local paper. PROFESSOR ANDREW holder of the world's academic post in theology and animal welfare, at Mansfield College. Oxford, has had an encounter with a dog. Linzey, who outraged Church traditionalists by penning liturgies for animals, was bitten by a resident at Battersea Dogs' Home while filming a programme for the BBC. Nowhere in his book, Animal Rites, does it say anything about

prayers for animals who hite others. Has the dog-lover missed a trick? "I think some things are worth discussing hut not others," Linzey drily told Pandora.

PANDORA DID not realise that the theory of evolution applied to competitions. The latest issue of Prospect magazine features a piece by Geoffrey Miller, which won the Vivus/Prospect prize of £5,000 for the best essay on sexuality from an evolutionary angle. The judges included Helena Cronin, who runs the Darwin Centre at the LSE. Miller, an evolutionary psychologist at University College London, often lectures at the Darwin Centre. One of the joint runners-up was Oliver Curry, "administrative assistant" at the Darwin Centre. Cronin told Pandora: "I didn't want it to look as if I was pushing Darwinian themes, so I waited to hear what the other judges thought first. I was delighted that Miller and Curry entered the competition and particularly delighted that they won." Pandnra supposes this is what is called natural selection.

THE GREAT and the good have all been invited to special showings of the Monet exhibition at the Royal Academy in London. But last Friday, at a gathering for the accountants Ernst Young, one of the sponsors of the exhibition, the gallery was evacuated after a reported water leak. A spokesperson for the Royal Academy told Pandora: "A fault

occurred in the control system and the gallery immediately closed. It was reopened the following morning." The spokesperson was keen to point out that: "It was not so

much of a leak as a

drip." And in which

room did this drip TRUE COLOURS, a report published by the Institute of Public Policy Research on racial discrimination, has generated an instant response. In the report, the anthor and Independent columnist Yasmin Alihhai-Brown argues that the law cannot tackle racism on its own. New Scotland Yard is certainly curions

first to call for a copy: Pandora can be contacted by e-mail ot: pandoraid independent.co.uk

to hear why. It was

### Oh no, we've been modernised

HOW, I wonder, will this week's gloomy news from Brussels affect our rent, which is coming up for review any day? I fear the worst. Inner London, according to a new Eurostat survey, is now the richest region in Europe, generating two-and-ahalf times more wealth than the EU average. That must include me.

I've lived in Chelsea man and boy - well, two men, three boys and three girls, to be precise - for the better part of 30 years in the same cramped fourth-floor (no lift) flat above a shop that I moved into as a penniless student. There were four of us, a law student called Hugh, an art student called Richard, a young journalist called Hamish (that's Hamish McRae, by the way) and me. and we all paid £5 a week rent.

Don't worry - this isn't going to be one of those down-memory-lane exercises with me binding on mistyeyed about the good old days when the King's Road still had a fishmonger, a greengrocer, a pet shop and a spit-and-sawdust pub called The Markham Arms where the Kray brothers drank I am feeling misty-eyed - The Markham Arms is now a hranch of the Abbey National.



#### SUE ARNOLD

Bankers, film stars, drug dealers and wide boys live in Chelsea these days ordinary families don't

I tell you all this to demonstrate that Chelsea, despite its raffish reputation (greatly exaggerated), was once an ordinary place where ordinary people like us could afford to live. When, in the fullness of time, I moved into the master bedroom. having married the law student, the others moved out. This left room for a lodger, a serious young woman called Vera from Düsseldorf, who

sold space for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and ran a nursery. Every five years or so they put the rent up, but not by much - they being a series of increasingly dubious landlords, the last of whom demanded that the rent be paid in used notes or a cheque made out to Lucky Logic Holdings (Isle of Man). The building fell into disrepair. We, being nearest to the roof, became used to the rain dripping, sometimes pouring, through the kitchen ceiling via the electric light fitting, but this was preferable to life in Flat One. which bore the full brunt of the build-

ing's archaic plumbing.
There was the memorable evening when Mary Lou, one of the four Pan Am air hostesses who lived in the bottom flat, staggered upstairs too traumatised to speak coherently. They had all been away on long hauls for a week. She was the first one home. "Oh my God oh my God," burbled Mary Lou, Come and see." I came. I saw. I hlanched. Someone's S-bend or Ptrap, possibly Flat Two's, had. packed up, and a week's worth of sewage from three flats had backed up into Mary Lou's lavatory and was

now seeping menacingly along the corridor towards the kitchen. We all put up with these minor

irritations because we liked living in Chelsea. My second husband said there would be more space in Winbledon, hut you get used to Zone One, and besides, the children were at local schools. And then 10, maybe 15 years ago, everything changed. The first intimation that things were different became apparent when the lights on the stairs were turned off because Lucky Logic had failed to pay the electricity hill and done a runner owing heavenknows-how-much to the Right Hon Lord Whatsit who owned the head

lease to the entire block. Overnight we were modernised. The 82 concrete stairs leading to our front door were carpeted, the walls were painted, the roof was fixed. Most significantly, our security of tenure as tenants was withdrawn. We were no longer in Fair Rent territory, we were in market rent territory, and the market had changed - boy, how it had changed - because Chelsea had changed. There were still families down the road, but if they were in flats they were coun-

cil flats, and if they were in houses, the houses cost upwards of £2m.

Bankers, film stars, drug dealers and wide boys live in Chelsea these days - ordinary families don't. In the Fair Rent days, I kept the pram and the children's bikes in the hall, and hung the washing on our landing to dry. The fire escape ladder was perfect for underwear Visitors said it looked very Italian. Frank, the 85year-old ex-bomher pilot downstairs, loved having a family upstairs. Last year Frank died, and his flat became vacant, and Lord Whatsit wants £600 a week for it unfurnished - and yuppie foreign bankers are trudging incredulously up three flights of stairs ("What, no elevator?") to view it. Yesterday, after several warning letters about health, safety and vermin, the bicycles downstairs and the washing, football boots and toy boxes on our landing were seized and impounded in a mews off Sloane Square.

Inner cities, even the richest in Europe, need families. Families need understanding landlords. Besides, a Chelsea flat with Continental ambience and lingerie should fetch more than £600 a week, surely?

### In Britain, nothing is ever as simple as black and white

I WISH I had become a hiscious cookery gururinstead of a worthy "race expert", which makes dinner parties (if indeed I am ever invited to them these days) such unsettling occasions. Two questions recur in various forms. Is racism really that much of a problem in this country? Yes. Are things getting better on the race front? Yes.

You see, both realities do coexist. and cannot cancel each other out. The Lawrence report, the British Crime Surveys and piles of other evidence on discrimination hold up mirrors close to our faces so that we can see the hlemishes.

There are areas in this country where there is unspeakable despair among black and Asian people. But today, because of the Lawrence inracist killing of Kelso Cochrane in Notting Hill Gate in London in 1959 - when thousands of white people turned up at the funeral - there is a real willingness to change things. When Reggie Kray writes a letter expressing his shame to Mrs Lawrence, it must mean something. This is what makes the situation in Britain so complex, and why the majority of Britons avoid engaging with it. Many black and Asian people. wounded as they are hy racism, would prefer it if there weren't too much distracting talk of progress and harmony. Most white people would just love it if we got out of the habit of moaning when in pain and became more "positive" (God, how I hate that word).

But even this is simplistic. Tory black and Asian Britons tend to be much more irritated by anti-racists than white people. And there are thousands of white Britons who are committed to fighting racism.

Exactly 20 years ago this spring Blair Peach died for this cause when he was bludgeoned to death by



ALIBHAI-BROWN

When Reggie Kray writes a letter to Mrs Lawrence expressing his shame, it must mean something

as he was out demonstrating against the National Front in Southall in London. It has been ever thus. As CLR James, a Trinidadian and one of this country's finest intellectuals and writers, wrote in 1938: "The blacks will know as friends only those who are fighting in the ranks beside them. And whites will be there." So nothing is as simple as black

and white. It never was, and is still less so today when this small island kingdom is grappling with the very essence of nationhood as it comes to terms with devolution, further integration into Europe and the wider implications of globalisation. Against this backdrop, then, we need to become more politically and socially literate. We need to understand our complex, multitudinous society; to create a more relevant discourse, to tell new stories for what we might be if only we could liberate ourselves from the comforts of old habits and plain beliefs. We should expect more, too, of our leaders, who should have

Fifty years after the Empire Windrush landed on these shores and four centuries after the first racist utterances about immigration were made by Queen Elizabeth I, right-minded white and black cilizens have reason to ask why we have been governed so poorly that young men feel it is patriotic to kill someone just because his skin is of another colour. Why should we tolerate such fissures? Why are we allowing the country to lose out on the talents of bright young black and Asian graduates? No wonder so many of them laugh away the integrationist

dreams of their parents. Last night, BBC TV repeated an experiment first carried out 10 years back, when hidden cameras were test whether direct racial discrimination still existed. It was filmed in Leeds. We saw that in some situations the black man got worse treatment than his white colleague, and heard a foul-mouthed taxi driver holding forth on "smelly Asians" and race wars. Unlike those in the last programme, depressingly, these two investigators themselves ended up fighting each other, so wide was the gap between their perceptions.

This brings me to the theme of my new book, True Colours, published this week by the Institute for Public Policy Research, where I work part time. I plug it with an easy conscience because there are no royalties involved, and because doing so is marginally less distasteful than having a good friend promote or review it. Also, as the media itself cannot handle more than a couple of radical thoughts, I am giving you the bits you didn't get. I am suggesting to the Government that it should grasp this challenge and modernise the way race has been dealt with for half a century.



used by two intelligent, articulate A true image of modern Britain

Andrew Buurman

New Labour is undoubtedly serious about race. Can you imagine Michael Howard, Michael Portillo et al initiating the Lawrence inquiry? But the past is too much with us, and the future is too limited in the way it is envisaged. Never before have we had three political leaders so committed to a diverse, cosmopolitan national identity that allows the various tribes of these islands to feel good about their ancestry. Ethnicity today is as important to the Scots as It is to the Muslims, and a good thing too, as long as it doesn't descend into xenophobia

Let us shed the term "ethnic minority". It is meaningless, and implies that only tinted people have an ethnicity and that all whites are the same. Let us expand the term "mulhculturalism" to embrace even the English, poor dears, who have been mightily maligned for too, too long.

Let us break the foolish coupling of race and immigration. We have no evidence that, year on year, hardline immigration laws have made for better race relations. Immigration policies need to be based on need not panic, and race should have nothing to do with it. Look at Silicon Valley. If its Indian computer wizards were to go home, the hlossoms would vanish instantly.

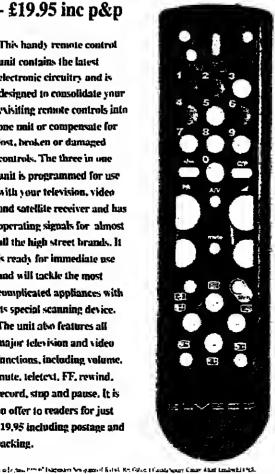
Let the people of this country, black and white, be consulted on issues to do with race and immigration. They never have been, and on this - and only on this - point, Enoch Powell was right. Let us proclaim with pride what we have achieved together. At present, in some ways, real integration has overtaken our understanding of it.

None of this can happen without leadership. As Michael Ignatieff puts it: "Racial attitudes, since they are an unstable mix of fears and fantasies, are especially susceptible to changes in the public culture. They are not a set of atavistic facts before which all politicians must kneel... racial attitudes can be changed." And if they are not, say goodbye to that cohesive, dynamic society we all wish we had and dream of having in the next millennium

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SALL WITH INDEPENDENT REMOTE CONTROL OFFER PUBNICT LINEAR EN TH Picture to a first for all you do not would be re James without from Independent Newspaper

#### The spread of contraception WHAT ARE our priorities every year as a result of preg-for action? Nowhere is nancy and childbirth.

support more needed than for HIV/Aids, which threatens single-handedly to wipe out the development gains of the last three decades. The latest figures predict that 40 million people may be living with HIV by 2000.

priority for the global response. We now know more than ever how to prevent HIV and we must continue to do more of what works: information powerful enough to change behaviour, condoms, standards for the care women treatment for sexual infection and safe blood.

efforts to get the science right and find both a vaccine and a female-controlled protection product such as a microbicide. These products, as with condoms and contraception, will need to he subsidised from government and donors' funds - to ensure that poor people will be able to benefit

from them. Nowhere is the inequality and inequity between rich and poor, women and men more starkly illustrated than by the

Let us be clear what the challenge here is: it is the right to life of 8 million women between now and 2015 and the right to survival and quality of life of their dependants.

Maternal mortality statistics are the barometer for the ex-Prevention must be the tent to which health systems do or do not function.

We must work to ensure that health sector development delivers improved maternal and other reproductive health outcomes. We need should expect and authoritative guidance on the functions that We must also intensify our health systems should perform. While the so-called "population explosion" may be over we should not forget that more than 1 hillion young people the largest generation in human history - are now en-

tering their reproductive years. It is the choices made by these young people that will determine the prospects for a fair, healthy and stable world fit for future generations. We must defend their right to be

given a choice. This includes helping them number of women who die to make wise decisions, with-



PODIUM

**GEORGE FOULKES** From a speech by the development minister to the United Nations Hague Forum

on population out coercion, about when to commence sexual activity. It

includes making sure that they have access to services and products to protect themselves against sexual infection and pregnancy if and when they do become sexually active.

In development, we talk about food security. With HIV prevalence as high as one in four in parts of urban Africa, reproductive health commodities, such as male and believe that new objectives to

female condoms, are hasic needs. We know also that around 120 million couples are still unable to access the contraception that they want when they need it.

We need to make contraceptives and condoms - hoth male and female - easier to get. hold of If Coca-Cola can be everywhere in the developing world, why not these essential commodities? We think the notion of "contraceptive security" highly relevant to meeting people's sexual and reproductive health needs in the next 15 to 20 years or so.

So what does this mean for

the way we work? First, coherence. International action directed to these priority actions must be coherent and it must be taken in concert. We need strong, strategic leadership. The United Nations system provides this, but we believe that its constituent parts could do more to work together as global champions on HIV, maternal health and contraceptive security. It is essential that we are able effectively to monitor the goals, the outcomes, agreed at Cairo. We

accompany the Cairo goals are urgently needed to intensify action to comhat the progression of HIV. For example, what changes should we be aiming for between now and 2005, 2010 and 2015 in the proportion of young people infected with HIV?

And, last but not least, cash. There is no "something for nothing". Overall resource commitments have not met the expectations of Cairo. Delivering the Cairo agenda does depend on governments - hoth north and south - find ing new resources for sexual and reproductive health. But we must be focused on outcomes and driven by what works best

So, let's ensure that the report of the UN Secretary General agrees the kind of key future actions and practical measures needed.

We must adjust our horizons and our time-frames. We need to engage in partnerships over

the next 10 to 20 years. And let's be clear that while knowledge, know how and ... good practice matter, progress is determined more by political choice

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### The true face of America



#### DEJEVSKY

If uncomfortable truths come out of Clinton's lying, he may unwittingly have done us a favour

TODAY, TOMORROW, at the very latest Saturday, America's year of laughing-crying agony will end with the acquittal of Bill Clinton on a newfangled technicality: his poll-rated popularity. Only the second president of the United States to be tried by the Senate will be spared to serve out his term, and by a far wider margin than the single vote that saved his comrade in impeachment Andrew Johnson, in 1868. Will Presidents' Day - which falls this weekend to commemorate the likes of George Washington, Abraham Lincoin and John F Kennedy - ever be the same again?

As the US Senate nears its verdict, the dominant image is of an all-conquering Clinton, striding unscathed through a battlefield strewn with the corpses of his enemies: the independent prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, two House Republican leaders (one incumbent, one designate), a posse of influential Republicans who turned out to be preaching what they did not practise, and a string of women, among them Linda ("The Snitch") Tripp and "Santa Monica" herself, whose reputations lie in shreds. The arrows rebound off the President to fell his attackers instead.

Already, the United States is drawing conclusions from all this, but they are not necessarily the right ones.

It is taken for granted that Kenneth Starr and his ilk will not ride again. The Independent Counsel Statute, introduced after Watergate to prevent presidents flouting the judicial process, will be allowed to laose when it comes up for renewal in June. To Clinton supporters, both the office and its holder were at fault. The office, because it ace a member of the judiciary in judgement over the President, a task reserved by the Constitution for Congress. The holder because Starr was seen as over-zealous, intruding into areas, such as the President's sex life, that Americans regarded as private.

The fact is, though, that there is no real need either to jettison the independent counsel or to criticise Starr. The system functioned as it was intended to. Richard Nixon was on the fast track to removal through the constitutional process



At the end of his Senate trial, one is left to reflect how well suited President Clinton is to today's America

when forced to resign. His dismissal of the special counsel investigating him may have delayed

his departure; it did not prevent it. Similarly, the existence of the independent counsel and Starr's handling of the Lewinsky investigation may have delayed Clinton's survival. hut they did not prevent it. The President's fate was left in the to defend the sexual harassment hands of the US Congress, where the Constitution said it belonged.

Because Starr's office appears doomed, his handling of the case will also be written off. But the evidence he unearthed and the conclusions be drew were not contested by the White House or by Democratic politicians. Four out of five Americans say they believe that Clinton committed perjury and obstructed justice - the charges in the two Articles of Impeachment against him.

The verdict of Americans is split guilty but worthy of office - and it will be effectively ratified by the Senate. The contradiction calls into question the other legal change that is likely to follow the trial: the unau-

imous Supreme Court ruling that a sitting president may be sued in the civil court. That ruling required him suit brought by Paula Jones. It led directly to the subpoena for Monica Lewinsky, and the rest is about to be history. If challenged in future, the Supreme Court may choose not to argue again that the distraction to a president from such a lawsuit is outweighed by the principle that loved him all the same. all citizens have the right to redress

Where Clinton is concerned. Americans may accept such a change. But it sacrifices a principle

that the US has stood for from its foundation, a principle much cited by the prosecutors in the course of the Senate trial: a president is not a king; no one is above the law.

Forsaking this principle may not precipitate the dire consequences prophesied by the gloomy representative from Himois, Henry Hyde, who asked whether "an America will survive that is worth fighting for", but it is a moment worth marking. It could make Clinton the last president not to be above the law - largely because Americans decided that he should be. They believed him guilty as charged, but

For some - mostly on the left the President's acquittal means that the impeachment process should never have been started, because the offences were "all about

sex". Impeachment has been "defined downwards"; benceforward. they argue, it will signify Congressional disapproval and nothing more. For others - mostly on the right - it means that the Senate was too lenient. If Congress will not remove the President for breaking his oath to uphold the law, what presi-

"defined downwards" and will never again wield moral authority. Clinton's impeachment is being blamed for causing this divide and for the descent of politics into partypolitical warfare. But the divide is nothing new, nor is the incivility; impeachment merely exposed it.

it is the presidency that has been

The one institution that is deemed to have survived with its dignity intact is the Senate. But this

#### is precisely the conclusion that should not be drawn. The Senate was every bit as divided on impeachment as the House, but Senators had the huxury of retreating behind closed doors to hammer out

America, and that senators are just as adept at ensuring their own survival as any other politicians. The fiercest condemnation of the Senate's verdict is coming, predictably, from the right, which warns that acquitting Clinton will change America profoundly for the worse. They bold out the prospect of a moral decline in all areas of public life, which will also undermine

their differences. The Senate was barely criticised for such secrecy. But the truth is, that the institution is badly out of touch with urban

and, above all, harm "our children". In truth, though, the impeachment trial and its outcome change nothing. They have simply held up a mirror to America, and if Americans do not like what they see, they had better get used to it, because the reflection is true.

the US's authority in the world

There need be no degradation in public life, because it is not now beyond reproach. Power and money talk; people lie under oath; juriea are nobbled. The sexual barassment laws will not be compromised by the President's conduct, because they were already compromised. While the prosecution argued that any chief executive or military officer would be out on his ear if he behaved as Clinton did, those in the know say he would not. The number of senior executives and officers removed for such offences is minute, and the more senior the offender, the more likely be is to survive.

To be sure, candidates for the presidency next time around may be asked probing questions about their private lives. But the lesson from Clinton's impeachment is not. as many are warning, that an imperfect past (or even an imperfect present) is a disqualification from office. It is rather that almost any indiscretion is now survivable, even lying - especially if no one believed you in the first place.

The US's image abroad will not suffer unduly from Clinton's acquittal, because the world has long been more sceptical of US motives and authority than have Americans themselves. And since when have her children been so innocent? Middle-class parents may have been embarrassed and their children may be the most protected m dent can ever be removed from the world, hut they are also among office, for anything? In their view, the most precociously knowing.

The overriding message from Clinton's acquittal is not that the US will never be the same again, hut that it may be more honest about how it really is. And if some uncomfortable truth-telling comes out of Bill Clinton's lying, he may unwittingly have done his country a favour. Until then, we can only reflect how very well suited Clinton is to today's America - and America

#### RIGHT OF REPLY

MARTIN BARNES



The director of the Child Poverty Action Group reacts to vesterday's article by Alistair Darling on welfare reform

THE BENEFITS regime is tough already; don't make it tougher. CPAG agrees that for those who want to and are able to work, paid employment is a route out of poverty. But work is not, and should not be made to be, an option for all - there must also be genuine security and dignity for those without paid work. The issue of the adequacy of benefits should be addressed by Alistair Darling, not ignored. Benefits can help prevent poverty even if the causes

are many and complex. At first glance, many people may see no problem in requiring claimants to attend an interview to discuss work. But there are dangers, not least in the attempt by the Government to act and sound "tough" on claimants. The statement by Tony Blair that Labour's welfare reform will end the "something-for-nothing welfare state" is simplistic and, quite frankly offensive. The insensitive language and media spin risk reinforcing negative stereotypes.

There are already many barriers to claiming benefit the process can be humiliating and degrading. The prospect of means tests, medical examinations and home visits to check domestic arrangements fills many people with dread. Benefit rules themselves are detailed and complicated, with regulations running to hundreds of pages. No one receives benefit unless an official is satisfied that they are entitled to it - there are many hoops to jump through.

The proposal for a new

"gateway" interview will work only if it is adequately funded. The Benefits Agency is already saying that it cannot deliver the high-quality service promised in last year's Welfare Green Paper. With compulsion, you can get away with delivering an inferior service. The benefits regime is tough already; don't make it tougher.

### Our debt is to Bilbo, not Plato

DAVID GRESS'S book is a staggeringh ambitious attempt to rethink the whole of human bistory. Patchily brilliant and profoundly perverse, it poses as an intervention in America's "culture wars" but far transcends that parochial context, offering us something much wider, much deeper and much darker. Gress's aim is to re-examine the Toynbee or John Gray to Vaclav Havel,

history of "the West" and what the idea as historically ignorant and philoof a "Western tradition" has meant to its supporters and enemies. The conventional story was, be auggests, an idealised history of continuity, of unfolding freedom and democracy from ancient Greece to the present western European and north Atlantic world. Hence the title - intended to be ironic, though it also borrows from the late Brian Redhead's useful little history of political thought.

This "grand narrative of the West" is all wrong, says Gress, Assuming continuity from the ancient Greeks to modern Natopolis, historians of ideas have mistakenly ignored everything between. He feels able to dismiss virtually everyone who has pontificated on the idea of the West, from Arnold



#### FROM PLATO TO NATO: THE IDEA OF THE WEST AND ITS OPPONENTS

THURSDAY BOOK

through the courts.

BY DAVID GRESS. THE FREE PRESS/SIMON & SCHUSTER, £17.99

sophically inept.

The real "Old West", be says, did not begin with the Greeks, but evolved from Roman, early Christian and, crucially, German sources about 1500 years ago. The stress on ancient Germanic tribes as the main source of our ideas of freedom was popular in the 19th century and, according to Gress, was unfairly discredited by the anti-German prejudice fostered during the world wars.

He seeks to rehabilitate it, and places German thinkers - often antidemocratic and romantic-nationalist at the heart of his history of thought. This German-centred view of world history involves Gress in some very strange arguments indeed.

Because the conventional story was so inaccurate, it was - Gress goes on - all too easy a target for lefties, feminists, multiculturalists, postmodernists and other villains. By offering a better history, Gress believes he is also providing a stronger defence against such attacks. Yet his depiction of everything be thinks "anti-Western" is a crude and often silly caricature. Environmentalism is merely "the green superstition", invented by devious ex-Marxists. Post-modernism has no other meaning than "to sow further confusion by combining anticapitalist and antimodern resentments" into "a barely camouflaged anti-Western ideology

Perhaps oddest of all, what Gress calls "the anti-Fascist mindset" from the 1930s onwards was a disguise for pro-Sovietism, so that even to use the word "Fascism" reveals one as a Stalinist. This is palpable nonsense. Probably the most influential of all modern theorists of Fascism has been the German Ernst Nolte, an ultra-conservative whose later writings shaded close to apologias for Hitler.

In an even stranger move, Gress avoids the label "Nazi" because it is a "derogatory acronym". Well. God forbid that anyone should want to be "derogatory" about Hitler's movement, but the abbreviation has been used by almost all historians. Gress is not, of course, some sort of crypto Nazi himself, he makes the proper noises of support for democracy and disgust at anti-Semitism.



Gress provides us with a hobbit's-eye view of history

bere. There are, bluntly, almost no Marx, as ultra-villain) and no women or non-whites. This is a German intellectual world with ultra-rightists and ex-Nazis such as Ernst Junger, Oswald Spengler and Martin Heidegger at its centre, but with no mention at all of Hannah Arendt. Walter Benjamin or Karl Popper. There's not the slightest hint that figures such as Frantz Fanon, WEB DuBois had something important to say about the idea of the West.

Gress's only comments on non-Western history are (to use his own abusive language) just ignorant clichés about Islam and China. He gestures towards the value of "macrohistorical" structural analyses such as those of Jean Baechler and Ernest Geliner, but does not use them.

Gresa is a fellow at the Danish Institute of International Affairs, a Director of the Foreign Policy Research Institute, in Philadelphia, We do, though, get a very peculiar and co-author of a history of West Gernew pantheon of intellectual history many. Another of his past achieve- is published by Verso

ments, though, may provide a better Jews or left-wingers in it (except clue to his world view. He is, it seems, the leading translator of JRR Tolkien into Danish

For all the book's bowing to ideals of liberty and rationality, it is Tolkien's Nordic-Germanic fantasy world of gods, heroes and magic that most shapes Gress's imagination. He argues that the "Grand Narrative" tracing Western development is a myth. He is right; but he has substiand Rabindranath Tagore might have tuted an even less plausible narrative -one that runs from Beowulf to Bilbo Baggins, taking in right-wing German romantics on the way. I'll cheerfully admit to being a Lord of the Rings fan since childhood and even to quite liking Wagner. Yet, if being part of "the West" has to mean identifying with Gress's idiosyncratic version of a cultural inheritance, his disdain for other traditions and his ferocious anti-egalitarianism, then count me out.

> The reviewer's book 'Afrocentrism: mythical pasts and imagined homes



#### THURSDAY POEM

TRIOLET BY EMILY PFEIFFER (1827-90)

Warm from the wall she chose a peach, She took the wasps for councillors; She said: 'such little things can teach:' Warm from the wall she chose a peach; She waved the fruit within my reach, Then passed it to a friend of hers: -Warm from the wall she chose a peach, . She took the wasps for councillors.

Our poems until Friday come from the new paperback edition of our poems with Friday come from the new paperoon embor of The Penguin Book of Victorian Verse', edited by Doniel Karlin (Penguin, £10.99)

# Bryan Mosley

AS THE roly-poly shopkeeper and local councillor Alf Roberts, Bryan Mosley contributed much to Coronation Street's success in portraying a sense of community in a Northern backstreet.

He was one of the television serial's longest-serving actors, making occasional appearances during Coronation Street's first decade and becoming a cast regular in 1972. He was last seen in the Street earlier this year, on New Year's Day, when Alf died quietly following a stroke.

The character first appeared as a Post Office colleague of Ken Barlow's father, Frank. He went on to win respect in Britain's most famous television street, in Weatherfield, a fictional suburb of Manchester, as a local councillor and as owner of the corner shop, which has always been one of the main centres of social interaction in the programme.

He twice served as Mayor of Weatherfield - in 1973, when the landlady of the Rovers Return, Annie Walker, accepted his invitation to he Lady Mayoress, and in 1994, when one of the pub's barmaids, Betty Williams, took over as First Lady after his wife, Audrey, found the routine of official functions too boring.

Strait-laced Alf was married three times in all. Six years after the death in 1972 of his first wife, Phyllis, who was never seen on screen, he exchanged vows with Renee Bradshaw, who owned the corner shop in Coronation Street, and he took early retirement from his job with the Post Office the following year to help her there. When she died in a car crash in 1980, Alf Inherited the shop and ran it until 1994. His only concession to modern times came when he turned the shop into

It appeared to be third time lucky in love for Alf in 1985 when he married Audrey Potter, mother of Gail Platt, But, with a reputation for being careful with money, he was unprepared for Audrey's shopping sprees and lack of belp with his business. Alf's ultimate penny-pinching measure was taking out "term" life assurance, which ran out only a short time before his death.

Bryan Mosley made Alfone of the most enduring and sympathetic characters in Coronation Street, even though he came from the other side of the Pennines himself. Born in Leeds in 1931, he was brought up in a working-class district of the city. As a child, he modelled for clothes catalogues and made his stage début at the age of 10 as the back end of a cow in a production of the pantomime Cinderella.

Instead of pursuing his childhood ambition to become a missionary, Mosley won a scholarship to Leeds College of Art (1944-46) and then worked as a commercial artist. In an effort to earn more money, he left that job to work in a bookshop and later sold books

Then, while doing National Service in Scotland, with the RAF in Air Traffic Control (1949-51), he started acting at the Byre Theatre, St Andrews. This led him, after demob, to train at Bradford Civic Theatre (1952-54) under Esmé Church, whose other students included Tom Bell, Robert Stephens and William Lucas. Mosley then toured with the New Pilgrim Players, putting on plays in churches, abbeys, pubs and prisons, before working in repertory theatre in York, Perth, Derby and Harrogate.



Mosley as Alf Roberts, Coronation Street's roly-poly shopkeeper, with his wife Audrey, played by Sue Nicholls

viewers, knew.

Terence Stamp in Far from the Madding Crowd (1967) and fought on a rooftop with Michael Caine in Get Carter (1970), which brought a nasty end for his character.

As a fight director, he coached such stars as Robert Hardy and Tom

'There's a lot in Alf that's not been explored on screen. He probably reads Tolstoy, but it's never been shown'

While in Perth, Mosley was able put to use the fencing skills he had learned in the RAF to direct the fights in a production of Othello. He did the same at the Theatre Royal, York, for Henry IV, and taught fenc-

ing in schools around Leeds. As well as acting in feature films such as A Kind of Loving (1962), Billy Liar (1963), This Sporting Life (1963), Rattle of a Simple Man (1964), Privilege (1967) and Charlie

Courtenay, as well as a young Neil Diamond, who was starting out on his singing career and needed to look like a fencer for a photo-session on the roof of his agent's offices. Along with Bill Hobbs, Henry Marshall and Derek Ware, Mosley was one of the

founder members of the Society of

British Fight Directors, which was

His economic

system embraces

the household

sector: the inputs

of households are

consumer goods

and the output is

labour supplied

to other sectors

intended to regulate fighting on stage and screen. Mosley took the role of Alf

Bubbles (1967), Mosley fenced with Roberts in Coronation Street in Episode 18, on 16 February 1961, just two months after Tony Warren's serial began. He continued to appear on and off for the next two years and, as a councillor friend of Len Fairclough, returned as a semi-regular in 1967. Five years later, when the character's wife Phyllis died in the storyline, Alf Robert's became a permanent fixture in the Street.

Alf's contribution to local affairs was honoured with his appointment as OBE in the Queen's 1995 Birthday Honours List. One of the character's most humorous storylines came with the race to get him and his wife, Audrey, to the ceremony at Buckingham Palace on time. Don Brennan threw Audrey out of his mini-cab on the drive to London following an argument, with the result that Alf asked Betty Williams - waiting outside the Palace - to take his wife's place alongside him. Audrey, not one to miss a chance to mix with dignitaries, never lived this event down.

As an actor, Mosley felt that Alf was sometimes regarded as a hit dull. He once told me:

explored on screen. There's something of a fighter in Alf. He was in the Army during the war and probably had quite a difficult war He's still interested in the a discust war. He's still interested in the weapons of the 1940s. All that has been glossed over. Part of the way I play him is that he has this experience behind the stald image. He has been to strip clubs with Ray Langton and Ernest Bishop, and he had a girlfriend called Donna Parker that me are in the street, not Parker that no one in the street, only

I don't go along with Alf about a lot of things. I don't spend time in pubs - it's a tremendous waste of time. He has a very limited outlook on travel and is never seen to read. I'm sure he does -he probably reads Tolstoy - but it's

During the Sixties and early Seventies, Mosley accumulated many other television roles in popular programmes such as The Plane Makers, The Saint, Z Cars, The Avengers, No Hiding Place, Emergency - Word 10 and Doctor Who. He played three short-term characters in Crossroads (1966-67), a policeman in A Family at War (1970) and the landlord of a block of flats in the first two series of the situation

comedy Queenie's Castle (1970-71). He also performed alongside There's a lot in him that's not been Arthur Haynes, Harry Worth and

Dick Emery in their television shows and with Morecambe and Wise in a commercial for the hrewers Watney's, as well as using his stunt skills to swing from a huge chandelier, sword in hand, in an unscreened advertisement for a cereal.

Mosley appeared with the Coronation Street cast in the 1989 Royal Variety Performance and was the subject of This is Your Life in 1997. At the 1969 American Television and Radio Commercials Festival he was awarded a Special Performance Citation for an advertisement he appeared in for Albert's Crisps.

In recent years, he was dogged by ill-health, suffering a heart attack in 1987 and respiratory problems 10 years later. These problems were mirrored in heart trouble for Alf on screen and eventually led to the decision to retire him from Coronation Street.

ANTHONY HAYWARD

Bryan Mosley, actor: born Leeds, West Yorkshire 25 August 1931; married 1956 Norma Bowes (three daughters, three sons); died Shipley, West Yorkshire 9 February 1999.

#### Bryn M. Jones

BRYN M. Jones was a leading biologist, an accomplished artist, and a man of charm and warm humanity It was these qualities he brought to the then University College of Wales, Aberystwyth ("Aber") when ... appointed to lead the Department of Zoology in 1961. His vision and enthusiasm matched the spirit of the now long-lost, post-Robbins age of the 1960s and 1970s. He glimpsed enough of the more troubled days following the first draconian financial cuts in 1981 to retire, he recently reflected, a little late.

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His younger days at Edinburgh University convinced him that a relaxed, tolerant and considerate approach to students would maximise their success. Thus, he relished the opportunity in "Aber" to transform the rather staid department from its focus on traditional natural history with a few selected Honours students, into a large multi-discipline. vibrant centre with 40 or more thirdyear students and a well-balanced range of modern courses.

Jones instituted tutorials and an "open door" availability of staff to students. He encouraged gettogethers at his favourite Gregynog Granada TV University Study Centre, in the Department and, with his wife Irwen, at his Plas Gwyn home. Students were always to be treated with respect and Bryn was especially sympathetic to their crises during examinations.

He was born in Breconshire in 1916 and was educated in Merthyr County School where initially he studied the humanities and fine art in the sixth form before switching to science and taking a Zoology degree from Cardiff in 1939. His outstanding skill at that time as a rugby union centre, captaining Welsh Schools and the British Universities teams, was never fully developed because of the Second World War.

The war took him initially to a reserve occupation making explosives at the Drigg Government Mills in Cumberland, then to the Royal Naval Medical Branch as a Lieutenant. Following specialist training in entomology at Cambridge, Jones went off to India and Ceylon to fight mosquitos (malaria) and harvest mites (scrub typhus).

He was demobbed to the Antiocust Centre in London but his days at Cambridge had whetted his appetite for academe and he took a 25 per cent pay cut to secure a lectureship in Edinburgh. He became a leading figure in entomology and gained his DSc in only four years. In the late 1950s, from his studies on the tanning of lipoprotein membranes in insect moulting and under the influence of Michael Swann dater BBC Chairman) and Peter Mitchell (Nobel Laureate), he recognised the growing importance of cell hiology.

In Aber, he rapidly made significant contributions to the study of the role of cell adhesion and movement in vertebrate development. By the 1970s, using novel immunological techniques, his group was making pioneering discoveries on the interaction of the cytoskeleton with the plasma membrane in cell adhesion, a field that is ever expanding to this day.

A talented artist, Jones was influenced by the modern movement of the 1930s and his work was sufficiently large and varied to justify a post-retirement exhibition in the University Gallery. The East was one influence, from his first vivid watercolours of Singhalese fellow seamen from his Navy days, to spiky drawings of the Madras seafront in the 1980s. In between were other "periods", especially a persistent "microscopist-abstractionist" phase of migrating and adhering cells transformed into abstract patterns, which would then decorate the corridors of the department and whose inspiration he would explain with characteristic hand waves.

> RICHARD KEMP AND RICHARD HINCHLIFFE

Bryn Mor Jones, cell biologist: born Cefn-coed-y-cymmer, Breconshire 6 November 1916; Lecturer and Senior Lecturer in Zoology, Edin-burgh University 1947-61; Professor and Head of the Department of Zoology, University College of ical Economics 1953-75; Nobel Prize Wales, Aberystwyth 1961-83; marin Economic Science 1973; married ried 1942 Irwen Rowlands (two 1932 Estelle Marks (one daughter): died New York 5 February 1999.

#### Wassily Leontief

THE COMPANY of economists who himself in those days as "a socialist met at Adam Smith's graveside in of independent views, which differed Edinburgh to pay honour to the great man on the hicentenary of his death in 1990 was a remarkable one. From the United States came Franco Modigliani, Laurie Klein and five Nobel prize-winning colleagues. The British contingent was led by the late Sir James Meade, Sir Alan Peacock and Professor Andrew Skinner Outstanding both in lecture and talk was a bustling dynamic figure with a great deal to say; this was the irre-

pressible Wassily Leontief On emigrating to the United States in 1931, his interest was narrowly focused on the development and refinement of input-output analysis. He was a promoter of the importance of raw data, which he used to show how the economy is broken into sectors. By systematically recording the flows of goods and services among industries, he explained their inter-relationships. Few doubted that in 1973 he deserved a Nobel prize for pioneering the field of input output analysis.

Leontief was born in St Petersburg, as it then was, in 1906. His father was a university professor, who coached him from the age of three. Wassily was admitted to Leningrad University in 1921 at the age of 15. His early studies were carried out against the background of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution and the civil war which dominated the years 1918-22, thereafter causing a period of slow economic recovery in Russia.

Leontief said that he was sympathere to the revolution and described

from those of the Bolsheviks". It could be no surprise to those who knew him later that he spent some time in prison. He was a natural member of the awkward squad. In 1925, after a chest infection which nearly killed him, he left Russia for Berlin, taking

Once there he worked with the

His time in Berlin instilled in Leonkiel, a period to which he attached some work on demand and supply.

sation in a cafe with a party of Chinese visitors led to an offer of ister of Railways in China. Leontief spent a fascinating year in southern China planning the railway network. This required him to travel throughout the country collecting data. In Edinburgh, he described his return to China 40 years later: his earlier experience gave him a wonderful capacity to compare old China and Mao's China. His heroes

advantage of family connections.

economic historian Werner Sombart, later the author of a best-selling book, Why There is No Socialism in the United States (1976). He also worked with the statistician Ladislaus Bortiewicz. This relationship was crucial to his later development and to the paramount importance he gave to statistics. Bortiewicz had also published (in 1907) an early solution to the so-called "transformation problem in Marxist economics".

tief a healthy scepticism of Communist economics. In 1927, be moved to the Institute of World Economics at enormous significance as he did

There in 1929, a chance converemployment as advisor to the Min-

were enthralled, as he was a marvellous raconteur. In 1931. Leontief received an invitation to join the National Bureau of Economic Research in New York. He quarrelled with a member of the faculty - Leontief's quarrels were colourful - and moved within months to the economics department at Harvard. At the heginning, his colleagues were less than enchanted but they soon realised that

what was to be his lifelong research on input output models was innovative and highly relevant. By the time he moved to the US, Leontief had a clear notion of what he wanted to do and of the data required. However, it was only 10 years later during the Second World War that his monograph on the American economy was published.

The economic system it describes embraces the household sector, not as a recipient of consumer goods



produced to satisfy final demand, but as an integral part of the model. Households, Leontief saw, form an additional sector or industry; the inputs of households are consumer goods and the output is labour supplied to other sectors. Investment and savings were similarly incor-

porated in the system. If a sector was making a net investment its expenditure exceeded its revenues, while for a sector making net savings revenue exceeded expenditure. A separate saving co-efficient was established for each sector, such that total expenditure was equal to total revenue divided by the coefficient. Sectors making a net investment was to have a savings coefficient of less than one (expenditure exceeding revenue). Sectors making net savings - the

household sector for example would have a coefficient in excess of one. During the war, Leontief worked

Thora Craig

for the US Treasury under the direction of Henry Morgan Ford Jnr and went with him as one his advisors to the Bretton Woods Hotel in lovely New Hampshire where his boss, along with Maynard Keynes, outlined the economic system of the post-war world.

My first memory of Leontief was when I and other Cambridge undergraduates were told by our supervisor, the late Harry Johnson, to attend a lecture hy one of the most innovative economists of the day. It was not just the undergraduates who went. There sat Nicholas Kaldor and Richard Kahn, Dick Stone and Sir Dennis Robertson, Piero Sraffa, Austin Robinson and Joan Robinson. Later in the week, at Robertson's political economy club, the students had the benefit of the glittering conversation between Robertson, some of his colleagues and Leontief.

In 1975, having reached the age of 70, Leontief moved to the Institute of Economic Research specially created for him by New York University. Here he could work on practical solutions to practical problems and radical approaches to the

changing challenges of the world. He was a prolific writer, displaying demonic energy all his life. Among his famous books are Input-Output Economics (1966) and The Structure of the American Economy 1919-1929 (1941). At the age of 80, he produced the Future Impact of Automation on Workers (1986) and his contribution to economic and scientific journals flowed and flowed.

He played an important role in the debate in the US on economic plan-ning. Along with Leonard Woodcock

of the AutoWorkers Union, he was cochairman of the Initiative Committee for national planning. In the Congress, legislation was proposed by Senators Humphrey and Javits to create an Economic Planning Board

and a council on economie planning. Leontiefhimself was cool about the particular form of legislation, which in his view concentrated too much on the elimination of unemployment and too little on planning the struc-tural shifts which would inevitably take place as a result of technological advance. However, for all Leontief's caution, the then vice-president, Hubert Humphrey, when I visited him in 1965, opined that Wassily Leontief had contributed more than any of his contemporaries to economic action at government level in the US.

However, Leontief wasn't simply concerned with America. He was the leading contributor to a seminal document with Anne P Carter and Peter A. Petri on "the future of the world economy" in 1978. It gave practical advice to primary producers and developing countries. As Amartya Sen, Master of Trinity and himself a Nobel Prizewinner in Economics, put it: "Wassily Leontief was one of the most innovative economists with a deep interest in the real world". TAM DALYELL

Wassily Leontief, economist: born St Petersburg 5 August 1906; Prafessor of Economics, Harvard University 1946-53, Henry Lee Professor of Politi-



Battlefield wounds

#### THORA CRAIG'S long life was dedicated to the relief of suffering and the promotion of principles that pre-date many of today's more selfish imperatives. It was a life that changed the nursing profession to

a remarkable degree. She was born in 1910, the daughter of George Silverthorne, a South Wales miner and a founder member of the British Communist Party: Her faith in the virtues of co-operation and comradeship remained rooted

in the values of the coalfield.

national Brigade in Spain. She pioneered new ways of treating battlefield wounds, often working in dangerous circumstances. The courage of the republican forces inevitably led to heavy casualties. Hundreds a rades in uniform voted to promote criticism in the professional press. her their matron. Ever after she was an honoured guest at veterans' re-

unions, unveiling memorials. The culture of the College of Nursing - the forerunner of the Royal College of Nursing - preclud-

coerced into working longer hours for less pay, with a handful of colleagues Craig set up the Association of Nurses, the first trade union for hospital staff, in 1938. Small in number but unconventionally outspoken, the day were treated and Craig's com- association was subjected to fierce

But nurses recognised the strength of Thora Craig's arguments for better pay and conditions - and hence improved patient care - and took to the streets wearing masks to in the values of the coalfield.

She trained as a State Registered ed membership of a trade union. Apministrators. They signed up in Nurse and in 1936 joined the InterNurse and in 1936 joined the Inter
Nurse and Inter
Nurse an hide their identity from hospital ad-

ciation into the National Union of Public Employees, now subsumed into Unison. As Secretary of the Socialist Medical Association she was a leader of a delegation that met Clement Attlee to discuss the establishment of the National Health Ser-

vice by the 1945 Labour government. Thora enjoyed a long and happy marriage to Nares Craig, a radical architect and fellow Communist. Their efforts to support those in trouble were unremitting. In 1968 their daughter Lucy was one of the Guild-

heing offered by Surrey County Council, then dominated by City men and retired senior army officers. Thora and Nares threw their considerable intellectual and practical weight behind the students and the seven lecturers sacked for supporting them; three years later the lecturers won reinstatement.

Craig's experiences in the Span. ish Civil War maintained an influence throughout her life. One sunny autumn day in 1992 when she was in

as I arrived in Spain I was told that red crosses were never displayed on hospital tents because the wounded and those tending them were a favourite target of Franco's war planes." At the Lord Mayor's reception that followed the unveiling. The Internationale" was sung. It was sung again at Thora Craig's funeral.

TONY HEATH Thora Craig, nurse: born Abertillery, Monmouthshire 25 Novem-



#### Ruby Mercer

RUBY MERCER, American-born, Canadian by adoption, had two quite distinct careers. In her youth she trained as a music teacher, then became a singer and appeared successfully as a soprano at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, on Broadway and in opera houses and concert halls across America. She spent a year under contract to MGM in Hollywood, though she never actually appeared before the cameras. She also hroadcast frequently, and became a radio personality, hosting 13 shows each week, including the popular Mr and Mrs Opera on WNYC.

After her marriage to a Canadian businessman, Mercer moved to Toronto, where she founded, and for 30 years edited, the quarterly magazine Opera. Canada. She also founded the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus and wrote two excellent biographies of Canadian singers: The Tenor of his Time (1976), a life of Edward Johnson, the Torontoborn tenor who was manager of the Metropolitan Opera from 1935 to 1950; and The Quilicos (1991), about the baritone Louis Quilico, his wife Edna, a pianist, and his son Gino, also a baritone.

Ruby Mercer was born in Athens, Ohio, in 1906. A foundling, she was hrought up in the house of a choirmaster, where music and singing were part of everyday life. After training as a music teacher at Ohio University, she took a job in Honolulu, but did not stay there long, as a visiting singer from England heard her sing and recommended that she became a professional.

Mercer enrolled at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and after graduating, obtained a scholarship to the Juilliard School in New York. While singing Zerbinetia in a student performance of Struass's Ariadne auf Names, she was heard by Edward Johnson, who had just become manager of the Metropolitan, and who arranged an audition for her.

Having made her professional début as Nannetta in Falstoff at Philadelphia, Mercer made her Metropolitan debut on 6 June 1936 as Nedda in Pagliacci, obtaining excellent reviews. The following season she sang Marguerite in Gounod's Faust, and prepared Violetta in La Traviata, though she never got to sing the role as the opera house closed owing to a heat wave.

Ruby Mercer was a very handsome woman as well as a fine singer with a beautiful voice, and in 1937 she was tempted to Hollywood by MGM; hut peditions to Africa, South America, no parts were forthcoming, and it China and such faraway places, Mercer

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using her to force Jeanette MacDonald to renew her contract at a more sonable salary.

Returning to New York, she sang at Radio City Music Hall, and in 1940 appeared at the New York World Fair in The Gay New Orleans Revue. She also sang in three shows on Broadway, incinding in 1941 Offenbach's La Vie parisienne. Throughout the 1940s she toured the North American continent in opera, operetta and musical, appearing in such shows as Sigmund Romberg's New Moon and Oscar Straus's The Chocolate Soldier, as well as La Bohème and Die Fledermaus. Her career on radio also flourished. When in 1958 she married Geza Por, a Hungarian-born businessman from Toronto, the second, Canadian half of her life began.

She found little opera in Canada, and even worse. little awareness of opera, so she set about changing matters as quickly as possible

Ruby Mercer found little opera in Canada, and even worse, little awareness of opera, so she set about changing matters as quickly as possible. envisaging a magazine on the lines of Opera News in New York. The first number of Opera Canada was published in spring 1969. At first limited to reviews on opera performances in Canada, and to news about Canadian singers at home and abroad, it grew steadily in size and scope, including a section of opera reviews world-wide. I became the UK correspondent in 1973, but did not meet Mercer face-to-face until 1983, By then, through countless letters and phone calls, we had become firm friends. She was a most stimulating companion, she had been everywhere, she knew everybody in the opera world.

An intrepid traveller, who made ex-



Mercer broadcasting a radio review programme in the mid-Fifties

of Canada

planned many summer trips to European festivals, but she was accidentprone, and these trips did not always materialise. Once she was badly burned in Kenya when she stepped in a hidden fire-pit. She did come to Europe in 1989, visiting London, Glyndebourne, Vienna, Bayreuth and Salzburg, as well as Budapest, in order to visit her husband's relations. She revisited Hawaii, where she got the idea for the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus, founded in 1968 with 40 children, a number that has now grown to 160.

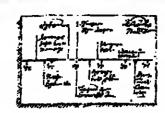
composer Gian Carlo Menotti, who had appeared on her radio show Mr and Mrs Opera, and commissioned him to write a children's opera for the CCOC. The result, Chip and his Dog, was performed at the Guelph Spring Festival in 1979. She continued to hroadcast fre-

On another trip to Hawaii she met the

She even made a stage appearance as Princess Bozena in Kalman's Countess Maritza at Toronto Operetta Theatre in 1986. Meanwhile honours and awards rolled in: In 1983 the Canadian Music Council Medal; in 1986 the Governor of Ohio's Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Arts; in 1988 a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Toronto Arts Awards; and many more. In 1990, at the age of 84 and exactly 30 years after founding Opera Canada, Ruby Mercer retired as editor. She became a Canadian citizen the following year, and in 1995 was named a Member of the Order

**ELIZABETH FORBES** 

Ruby Mercer, singer, broadcaster and magazine editor: born Athens, Ohio 26 July 1906; OC 1995; married 1958 Geza Por (deceased); died Toronto, Ontario quently in Toronto, on CBC and CFMX. 26 January 1999.



HISTORICAL NOTES

#### A poisoned memory of occupied France

struck Jean-Paul Sartre most was the gulf separating the British and the French experience: the past "which fills London with pride was, for Paris, marked with shame and despair".

Fifty years on, any British account of the Occupation still has to begin by accepting that the ordeal of being occupied is so alien as to be almost unimaginable. It is not for us to make easy judgements. The French themselves have long since abandoned the consolations and evasions they embraced immediately after the event. Since the indictments of René Bousquet, Paul Touvier and Maurice Papon, few people can believe in the old myth of a nation of resistants.

The speed and completeness of the German victory in June 1940 left the French in deep shock. If France could fall so easily, surely Britain would he next? Realism counselled that France come to terms with the New European Order imposed by the Nazis. In this spirit people turned to Pétain's Vichy government, reassured by the Marshal's record in the First World War but nourished also by the self-abasing impulse of the defeated to criticise not the victors but themselves. Communists, Jews, Freemasons, trade unionists fell victim to a regime that marched in step with German witch-

hunting and sometimes even

dirty work for them. Even so, resistance was

slow in coming - strikingly

so, if we compare France's record with what happened in Greece or Yugoslavia. It was 14 months before the first German soldier was killed by résistants. For the French to turn against their occupiers, they needed long disillusionment and new hope. The food shortage combined with increasing German hrutality to create disillusionment. Hope came first from Britain's continued survival and then, more emphatically, from the sethacks met by the previ-ously unstoppahle Wehrma-cht in its invasion of Russia.

After resistance had

ceased being an "absurd refusal" and become a matter of backing the likely winners, it remained small-scale and disorganised. It was usually inefficient, always badly equipped and all too often divided by hostilities from pre-war politics. It never looked like the powerful underground army of which some exiles round de Gaulle in London and Algeria had dreamed. De Gaulle himself assigned it a small, and largely symbolic, role; he wanted it to play a long game, waiting prudently until the Allied landings came. The death of résistants on the Plateau de Glières and Mont Mouchet. and the killing of hystanders in reprisal, demonstrated the terrible price which rash-

WHEN HE looked back on went ahead of it. Vichy land-ness continued to pay, not just the Second World War, what ed up doing the Germans' while the Allies were preparing for D-Day hut even after they had secured their beachheads in Normandy.

However weak it may have been against the occupiers. the resistance showed a deadly determination in hunting down their servants and the servants of Vichy, particularly the hated milice, or "French Gestapo" that had attracted thugs like Touvier. The settling of accounts hrought France close to civil war. To avert it, she needed not truth but the chance of reconciliation offered by de Gaulle's healing myth that the whole of France had comhined to oppose the Germans. At the time, the fiction infuriated resistants who knew full well they had always been a minority and for much of the time an unpop-

ular minority. Today it is clear that selfishness, higotry, cowardice and even private malice featured as prominently in the record of the Occupation as courage or idealism. They left a "poisoned memory that still lingers. But - to return to Sartre's anhithesis between Britain's pride and France's shame and despair - this does not mean we should feel superior. In such an ordeal, who can claim they would have done better?

Ian Ousby is the nuthor of 'Occupation: the ordeal of France, 1940-1944' (Pimlico,

#### Giuseppe Tatarella

GIUSEPPE TATARELLA never tired of explaining that he was not a Fascist. Thirty-plus years as a member of the neo-Fascist Movimento Sociale Italiano, and the post-Fascist Alleanza Nazionale party which he helped to create would seem to give the lie to this, but Tatarella was adamant: "I am a nationalist, a Catholic and a democrat," he said in his B last interview, which appeared in Il Giornale the day after his death.

His choice of political affiliation, he insisted, was due not so much to rightwing leanings, but to his strong anti-Communist sentiments. It must have hurt, therefore, when, as Communications Minister in the short-lived government led by Silvio Berlusconi in 1994, he was snubbed by an EU colleague who refused to shake his hand and when Italo-Israeli relations

grew chilly because of his presence in the administration.

In Italy, this genial, dishevelled politician, his glasses forever perched on his balding pate, encountered fewer preiudices. He was credited with being the mastermind behind "la svolta", the turn-around which took the MSI out of the political doghouse and into the parliamentary mainstream in 1994 when the party was transformed into the Alleanza Nazionale. He was dubbed "Minister of Harmony" for his tireless mediating between the squabbling parties which made up Berlusconi's government. "He was a friend, a loyal ally, and a champion of the moderate, democratic right," said Berlusconi.

Tatarella was born in Cerignola, Puglia, a "red" enclave in Italy's poor south-east, and it was there that he took

his first political steps, heading the local extreme-right youth movement in the 1950s and 1960s, and moving on to become the secretary of the regional hranch of the MSL In 1970 he was elected to the Puglia regional council and in 1979 became an MP retaining his seat in parliament ever after. After his stint in government, he became Alleanza Nazionale whip in the Lower House.

In the 1960s, he founded the weekly Puglia D'Oggi ("Puglia Today"). In 1996 he took over the Naples-based daily Il Roma, which he edited until his death. Unfazed by severe cirrhosis of the liver brought on by viral hepatitis, the indefatigable Tatarella continued his editorial work and political battles as he waited his turn - never pulling any strings to move up the waiting list, said his surgeon Mauro Salizzoni of the

Molinette hospital in Turin, under whose knife Tatarella died - for a liver transplant. In his final interview, this rightwing moderate talked of "going beyond the Polo per le libertà", the centre-right alliance grouping of Berlusconi's Forza Italia, Alleanza Nazionale and myriad smaller parties, to attract the support of centrally-inclined wavering voters.

"I want to push ahead at all costs with my political work," Tatarella confided to Dr Salizzoni hefore suffering a heart attack. "I'm quite calm about this transplant: it will be the beginning of my rebirth."

ANNE HANLEY

Giuseppe Tatarella, politician and journalist: born Cerignola, Italy 17 September 1936; married Angela Filipponio; died Turin 8 February 1999.

#### Forces compensation scheme was lawful

THE APPLICATION by the Ministry of Defence of a discretionary ex gratia scheme to compensate service personnel for criminal injuries suffered abroad, by which an exclusion for injury or death resulting from war operations or military activity by warring factions was applied to UN peacekeeping

operations in Bosnia, was

not unlawful.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the applicant's appeal against against the dismissal of his application for judicial review of a decision of the Ministry of Defence to refuse him compensation under its Criminal Injuries Compensation (Overseas) Scheme for serious injuries he suffered whilst serving as a United Nations peacekeeper in Bosnia.

The discretionary ex gratia scheme had been introduced in 1979 to compensate members of the armed forces who, through no fault of their own. were injured abroad as a result of crimes of violence. The purpose of the scheme was to provide comparable levels of compensation to those which would have been awarded by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board had the injury been caused by a crime committed in Great Britain. In a Parliamentary state-

ment in December 1994, the minister of state said that compensation was not payable where injury or death occurred as a result of "war operations or military activity by warring factions", and that current operations in Bosnia obviously fell into that category.

The applicant's injuries were caused by a single round fired

fire clients for Relate.

THURSDAY LAW REPORT 11 FEBRUARY 1999

Regina v Ministry

of Defence. ex parte Walker Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Auld, Lord Justice Chadwick

and Sir Christopher Staughton) 5 February 1999 into an accommodation block by a Serbian tank. The respondent rejected the appli-

under the scheme.

The applicant appealed against the dismissal of his application for judicial review on the ground that, although the respondent was entitled to determine and formulate the criteria it wished to govern the ex gratia scheme, its application of the scheme in his case was unlawful.

David Pannick QC and Michael Fordham (Leigh, Day & Co) for the applicant; Philip Sales (the Treasury Solicitor) for the respondent.

Lord Justice Auld said that the exclusion of compensation for injuries resulting from war operations or military activities by warring factions from a scheme intended to compensate for criminal conduct necessarily contemplated that criminal conduct could take one of those forms, otherwise there was no need for its exclusion. The fact that the applicant was engaged in a peacekeep-

ing operation rendering an attack on him by a warring faction an international crime was, thus, nothing to the point. Even if there were some lack of precision in the formulation of the exclusionary criteria, the Ministry's interpretation of it in the circumstances of the applicant's claim was not so aberrant as to be irrational.

There was no irrationality in the Ministry's adoption of the scheme. The purpose of the exclusion was to produce as nearly as possible some parity in the recovery of compensation for crime by military personnel abroad with that available to those injured by crime at home. It sought, therefore, to remove from the scheme a feature pecant's claim for compensation culiar to the life of a member of the armed forces ahroad in a theatre of war or where there was military activity between warring factions, namely the risk of injury from warlike behaviour.

Moreover, the Ministry was entitled to develop the scheme with the problems of the type posed by Bosnia particularly in mind, just as it was entitled to take the view that the circumstances in Northern Ireland were materially different from those in Bosnia.

The suggestion of unfairness in the failure to notify the applicant before he went to Bosnia of the precise terms of the scheme as amended in 1994, and its implications for him. was unfounded. It was difficult to see what action the applicant could and would have taken to ameliorate its possible conseovences for him had he appreciated the precise effect of the scheme before going to Bosnia.

KATE O'HANLON Barrister

### **GAZETTE**

#### ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Queen accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, presents the Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further **Education at Buckingham** Palace: The Princess Royal, as Chancellor, London University, also attends. Prince Edward, Patron, attends the London Mozart Players' 50th Anniversary Concert in the Royal Festival Hall, London SE1. The Princess Royal opens the Adolescent Unit of the Middlesex Hospital, London W1. Princess Margaret, Patron, visits the Peckham Settlement, London SE15. The Duke of Kent, Patron, British Computer ociety attends the BCS Awards 1998 nt the Royal Society, London SW1.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

Mr Richard Allan MP. 33: Sir John Arbuthnot, former MP, 87; Sir Ronald Arculus, former diplomat, 76; Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Berger, former Bursar, Selwyn College, Cambridge, 74; Professor Marilyn Butler, Rector of Exeter College, Oxford, 62; Mr Bevan Congdon, cricketer, 61; Mr Christopher Dearnley, organist, 69; Mr Patrick Leigh Fermor, writer, 84; Sir Archibald Forster, former chairman and chief executive, Esso UK, 71; Sir Vivian Fuchs. Antarctic explorer, 91; Mr William Fullerton, former ambassador to Morocco and Mauretania, 60; Mr Bryan Gould, Vice-Chancellor, Waikato University, New Zealand, 60; Miss Anne Gregg, broadcaster, 59; Mr Win Griffiths MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Welsh Office, 56; Mr Michael Jackson, chief executive and director of programmes. Channel Four, 41; General Sir Jeremy Mackenzie, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, 59; Mr Leslie Nielsen, actor, 73; Miss Mary Quant, fashion

designer, 65; Mr Burt Reynolds, actor, 63; Baroness Sharples, former director, TVS, 76; Mr Dennis Skinner MP, 67; Miss Kim Stanley, actress, 74; Mr John Surtees, motor and motor-cycle racing champion, 65; Mr E.W. Swanton. sportswriter and BBC commentator, 92; Miss Mary Tregear, art historian, 75; Mr Malcolm Walker, chairman and chief executive. Iceland Group, 53.

**ANNIVERSARIES** 

Births: Elizabeth of York, Henry VII's queen, 1465; William Henry Fox Talbot, photographic pioneer, 1800; Auguste-Ferdinand François Mariette, Egyptologist, 1821; Thomas Alva Edison, inventor, 1847; Joseph Leo Mankiewicz, director, producer and screenwriter, 1909; Farouk I, King of Egypt, 1920.

Deaths: Joanna II, Queen of Naples, 1435; Elizabeth of York, Henry VII's queen, 1503; Sir John Buchan, first Baron Tweedsmuir. governor-general of Canada. and novelist, 1940; Sergei

Mikhailovich Eisenstein, film director, 1948; Sylvia Plath,

On this day: the Miracle of Lourdes occurred, when St Bernadette had her vision of the Virgin Mary, 1858; the first weekly weather report was issued by the Meteorological Office, 1878; the Lateran Treaty established an independent Vatican State in Rome, covering 108 acres, 1929: Margaret Thatcher became the first woman leader of a British political party, 1975; in South Africa. Nelson Mandela was released from prison after 27 years, 1990; the Queen agreed to pay tax on her private income, 1993.

Today is the Feast Day of St Benedict of Aniane, St Caedmon, St Gregory II, Pope, St Lazarus of Milan, St Lucius of Adrianople, St Pascal I, Pope, Saints Saturninus, Dativus, and Others and St Severinus of Agaunum.

LECTURES

Victoria and Albert Museum: Mark HaworthBooth, "Zen and the Art of Henri Cartier-Bresson", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Oliver Collins, "The Role of Drawing: Matisse, Picasso and Braque", 1pm. British Museum: Hilary Williams, "Drawing and the Glories of 17th-century Rome", 11.30am. National Portrait Gallery: George Curry, "Charles Dickens's Great Expectations (ii)", 1.10pm. Royal Holloway, Egham, Surrey: Professor Euan Nisbet, "Geology and Creation", 5.30pm. Gresham College, Barnard's

Inn Hall, London EC1: Professor Lynette Hunter, "Risktaking in Reading", 1pm.

LUNCHEONS **Middle East Association** 

Mr Stephen Byers MP, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, was the HAGGERTY ENTERPRISES guest of honour and speaker at the Annual Luncheon of Inc's complaint about my innocent quoting of Lorrie the Middle East Association Moore's brilliant reference held yesterday at the Hilton Hotel, London W1. to somebody's blood moving "around his face and Mr Richard Owens, Chairneck like a lava lamp" man of the Executive brings to mind Peter Cook Committee, presided. and Virginia Woolf - an odd

#### WORDS CHRISTOPHER

HAWTREE

Woolf to write in The Waves of "the speed, the hot molten effect, the laval flow couple, who would be sureof sentence into sentence The word lava prompted · that I need."

And lava-lava is a Samoan skirt, first noticed by Robert Louis Stevenson: with it, nothing is worn above the waist. Peter Cook. affecting the voice of a stripper's manager, once rang the BBC to ask why it would not book his artistes but had in fact just broadcast the Ipi Tombi dancers in front of the Queen Mother,

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

### Must I be a slave to a bleeper?

Valerie, an experienced freelance on contract, has been offered a bleeper by her bosses so that they can contact her when they want to. She has a phobia about using it. Nor does she want a mobile phone ringing all the time. Does anyone else feel the same way?

**DILEMMAS** 

WITH VIRGINIA IRONSIDE

**VIRGINIA'S ADVICE** 

a quick check among my friends is anything to go by, bleepers are extremely unpopular. They go off with a piercblack plastic. ing ring, and then you have to access a message from your office, which

usually demands your reply as soon as possible. at the time, this can send your blood pressure soaring. I was once on holiday with someone who had a bleeper. Just as we were walking across the moors way without one. in Scotland, the blessed thing went off. We had to curtail our walk and burry to the nearest phone, only to find that it was some piddling message from a secretary asking whether my friend had an address that she

Apparently, if you're worried about a bleeper going off in a quiet place you can put it on "vibrate", which means that in the middle of the theatre, or wherever you happen to be wearing it, it can suddenly wiggle violently against you. Personally I'd find this as unacceptable as having the man next to me at the movies moving his knee close to mine

and rubbing it along my thigh.

Anyway, Valerie says she doesn't want to have to wear this thing all the time. Presumably she has some kind of clothes sense, and, unlike a lot of men,

by gadgets and heavy key rings, she values the line of her dress or the cut of her skirt and doesn't want it spoilt by a horrible bit of

Everyone I asked about bleepers winced, and they all gave the same simile. "It's like being one sually demands your reply as of those tagged prisoners," they said. "You can't go anywhere without someone being able to get at you." If Valerie isn't a member of staff. I can't see why she should have to wear one, if she fulfils her contract in every

> Life today is highly invasive, with unwanted faxes, unsolicited e-mails, junk mail, pizza offers through the letter-box, cold calls, and unwanted callers at the door If you work in an office, the telephone is manned first by a switchboard and then, probably. by a department secretary. Working on your own, you have no defence, no castle walls. I have got to the point myself when, at bome, I keep my answering machine on permanently. I screen every call and answer slave. them only when I care to. Everyone else I ring back at my leisure.

I think Valerie should buy herself a mobile tnot let the office buy it; then she'll be beholden). She could keep it switched off when she's with other people. (I'm appalled at the number of people I meet who, in the middle of a meal, suddenly reach into their who adore being weighed down ringing handbags and conduct long conversations with invisible people in front of me.)

She could also turn the mobile off when driving, if she were worried that the ringing would

But it sounds to me as though she never wants to be contacted out of the hiue. So I suggest that she buy a mobile, but keep the number to berself and never turn it on except to access messages hourly from her home answering machine. That way, she's entirely in control of the situation.

she operates, they may gulp a bit, but it's unlikely that they'll push the issue. And Valerie will feel that she's in charge. And soon she may realise that

tyrant. It



READERS' SUGGESTIONS

Don't let it rule your life No, you're not phobic, just sensible. In your place I would feel exactly the same, but then, BT's Friends and Family winds me up so much that I'm thinking of leaving the scheme.

Can you come to an agreement with your company that the bleeper will be on for a few hours a day when you are working at home? Then make a point of turning it off at personally in-convenient times? Or you could break the thing-drop it, leave it in a tunnel, give it a bath. But stand firm - you're being per-fectly reasonable, it's the others who are strange. STEPHANIE M SEILLIER Barnet, north London

A bleeper can be an asset Rather than feeling threatened by her bleeper, Valerie should welcome the freedom it gives her she can go missing without having to tell anyone where she's going and without feeling guilty about possibly missing important work calls. And outside acceptable working hours, she can al-

She may even find that she becomes attached to it as a useful means of organising her social life - it can be used frivolously by friends as well as demandingly by bosses. And it's so much cooler than a mobile phone - fellow passengers on huses and trains

ways activate the "off" switch for

need not be bothered by the intricate details of your life, and it's up to you whether you return your messages (you can deny all knowledge and claim to have been on the Tube at the time). If all else fails, Valerie, put it on "vibrate" and relax.

I know just how Valerie feels As a junior doctor I totally sym-pathise with your correspondent over her bleep. When I started the job nearly four years ago I received my bleep and a rota of one sleeper anyway, but although I was in no way superstitious (I even walked under a ladder on the day of my driving test), I believed that as soon as I turned the light off, someone would be sure to call, and so I spent several

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months sleeping with the light on. But it does get much easier. And while it is nice, just occasionally, to fantasise about throwing the bleeper against the wall, I know only one person who really has dropped it down the toilet. CAT THOMPSON

NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

Dear Virginia, My brother was a talented artist but he never made a name for himself because he refused to sell any paintings. Before he died a year ago, I promised him that his talent would not go to waste; I would bring his pictures to as wide an

The problem is that there are more than 300 canvases, mainly abstracts, which aren't fashionable. Many are huge, therefore less saleable. And no one has heard of . him. Storing them costs £4,000 a year. With difficulty,

audience as possible.

six at auction. I lie in bed tossing and turning with guilt that I'm unable to fulfil my promise. Do you have nny ideas about what to do with these pictures? I just cannot throw them away. Yours sincerely, Angie

Anyone who has advice quoted will be sent a bouquet from Interflora. Send letters and dilemmas to Virginia Ironside, "The Independent", 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL. fax 0171-293 2182, or e-mail dilemmas@independent.co. uk – giving a postal address I have managed to sell about for the bouquet,



Formal dress is required at the Freemasons' conferences



#### 40 Weekends in New York to be won with

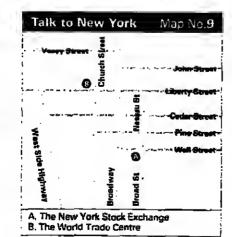
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\*THE INDEPENDENT

### So you want to be a Freemason

We know about the secret handshakes and aprons. But what do Masons actually do? By Chris Arnot

The heavy door through which I am ushered is marked "Strictly pri-vate". I had expected nothing less from one of the inner sanctums of Manchester's vastly imposing Freemasons' Hall. Yes. the Masons have become more open and media-friendly. Yes, one of the 131 lodges based here was the first in the country to advertise for members in the local paper But they're still Masons, after all Privacy goes with the territory.

We're not a secret society or a society with secrets, but we are a private society," says Alan Garnett, 52, provincial secretary for East Lancashire, who greets me on the other side of the door with a warm grasp of the hand.

I'm testing his grip for the probing thumh or the crooked little finger. But as I have never been initiated into the rituals of the Masonic handshake, what I'm feeling for is not immediately apparent. A surreptitious downward glance confirms that the bottom half of Mr Garnett's immaculate dark suit is firmly in touch with his shoes.

"I've rolled up my trouser bottoms three times in 30 years." he confides.

On each occasion he was passing through one of the initiation ceremonies on the way up the Masonic hierarchy, from apprentice to craftsman to master Mason. The ranks, like many of the symbols of Freemasonry, are based on the guilds of medieval stone masons. Hence the requirement to make oaths of allegiance "on bare and bended knee" (medieval masons wore breeches). Hence the bloodthirsty threat, abandoned as recently as 1986, that anybody transgressing those vows would have his throat cut, his toogue removed and his bowels fed to the birds. And hence the handshake. It enabled a master to know at first greeting whether an itinerant mason

had served an apprenticeship. "We use it only on ceremonial occasions and when visiting other lodges," Mr Garnett assures me\_"I shook hands with someone in the street the other day and my wife asked if he was a Mason. I told her honestly that I didn't know."

ed to social occasions such as

the annual ladies' evening.

Women are employed in the ers has done little to boost re-Freemasons' Hall as receptionists waitresses and bar workers. But to be a member of one of the 7,600-plus lodges in the British Isles, you have to be male. Masons tend to go to monthly lodge meetings straight from work wearing suit, collar and tie. They usually carry with them a little case. Each contains an apron to chester Evening News. tether around their woollenworsted girths. The plain leather version worn by the medieval stone mason has evolved into something altogether more ornate. Mr Gar-

bols and enhanced by two rows of metallic tassels. Two other Masons are sitting around the table in the provincial secretary's office. One is Barrington ("I only answer to Barry") Wallwork, a retired motor trader from Stockport.

nett snaps open his own case

to reveal a lambswool number

fringed with turquoise plastic,

decorated with Masonic sym-

'We are not a secret society, but we are a private society'

The other is Norman Pickles, a retired sub-editor from the Daily Mirror's Manchester office who is now East Lancashire's press and public relations officer. A sign of the times. Press and public were kept at arm's length until the mid-Nineties, when a more open policy was decreed by the Unit-

ed Grand Lodge of England Unfortunately for the Masons, it didn't stop the steady stream of negative publicity. Last March, the Grand Lodge was forced to hand over to the Commons Home Affairs Committee the names of 16 members who were alleged to have been involved in a series of police corruption scandals. Four months later, the Lord Chancellor sent letters to 5,000 judges and tribunal chairman asking them to disclose any links with Freemasonry. Only 4

per cent admitted to membership (although it was later re-Wives and Freemasonry vealed that the figure for male rarely mix, but they are invit- JPs was at least 14 per cent.) vealed that the figure for male The suspicion, though, of a

society of mutual back-scratch-

cruitment at a time when changing social trends bave already taken their toll. Membership in East Lancashire is at 11,500 compared to 19,500 just 20 years ago. All the same, officials were taken aback when the Humphrey Chetham Lodge went it alone and placed that advertisement in the Man-

So what can they expect, those would-be Masons? A long wait in some cases. More than 20 men have applied for half a dozen vacancies, which suggests there is still a demand in contemporary Britain for allmale organisations with a strong sense of tradition.

But there are no short cuts to membership. Each newcomer must find two backers who are already Masons. He will also have to prove that he has no criminal convictions, motoring offences apart, and declare his faith in a "supreme being" (the Christian God in most cases, although there are seven books of holy law available to swear on). Mr Gar-nett's lodge meets in the Derby Suite, under a painting of Lord Derby. Members sit on red plush chairs and await their officers who parade in with a

burst of organ music. "It's usually churchified tunes, military marches or Pomp and Circumstance," says the provincial secretary, who is a bit of a dab hand on the keyboard. "Last week I played the theme from Titonic.

The lodge master takes his seat below Lord Derby's portrait. Minutes are read and guest speakers introduced. Recent talks have been on American presidents who have been Masons (plenty) and the Masonic link to the pyramids of ancient Egypt. There is also a steady stream of speakers from charities to whom the Masons are generous donors.

By now we are in a bar, waiting for our sandwiches. It's lunchtime and the place is hardly full. But as we go to sit down at one of several vacant tables, Mr Garnett suggests that we move to another room: "Somewhere a little more

private." Private, but not secret

You Ask the Questions Gerry Adams's replies to your questions will appear in next Wednesday's Review

#### POETIC LICENCE

BOB'S SMART CAR BY MARTIN NEWELL

A leading transport expert, Professor Chris Wright, says that microprocessor devices installed in cars of the future may also act as policemen by keeping records of bad driving, fining us or, in extreme cases, even arresting us by locking us in our cars.



Good morning Bob Your Ford Futura speaking Monday/ Feb-thirteen/ Year 2010 Gremlin-tracker Can't pin down that squeaking Recommend clear boot out now and then

Exit seventeen you want? You missed it. Contraflow and tailback up ahead Soothing sounds on system Temper temper! Bear in mind what Robomedic said

I'm sorry Bob But "Dickhead" isn't proper Fined 100 euro. Insult noted. No use to dispute it Bob. I word-searched. Digi-dictionary has it quoted

Light was amber Bob. Don't argue with me. Jumping traffic lights endangers life. Incidentally, Bob Last weekend's "conference" Female colleague was she? Not your wife

Not the smartest move Bob, Really. Was it? Driving while "distracted". An offence. Had to shut you down Bob It's illegal Video recorded evidence

Mandatory, Bob They're standard features. Steering-lock and seat-clamps all release. After flashing lights And pulsing hooter Signal the attention of the police

Put it this way Bob You're only forty May remarry, find a job some day. Sorry Bob, your phrase Can't be computed. Nearest substitute is: "Go away."

### Trust her, it's important

Who needs hype? Barbara Kingsolver's novels become best-sellers by the back door. By Judith Palmer

aybe hecause I'm a working mother, I am well aware you have got plenty else to do than read this book. Maybe it's Southern modesty, but I really wouldn't bother you if this weren't important," breathes Barbara Kingsolver, resting an index finger lightly on her new novel, The Poisonwood Bible. "That'a how I come to my readers: 'I won't bother you, unless it's important. Trust me, it is.' That's how I was raised. I was raised polite."

Over 10 years and eight books, Barbara Kingsolver has very modestly, very politely, built herself the kind of reputation which writers don't go in for much nowadays steadily accrued by word-of-mouth personal recommendation from one reader to another. No shaving her head in public. No posing naked behind a pile of her own oeuvre. Just one book after another, passionately written and passionately read.

I'd certainly never heard of Barbara Kingsolver when a friend frog-marched me into a bookshop in 1989 and insisted that I read her first novel, The Bean Trees. It's a vivid memory because, before or since, I've never had a book pressed into my hand with the same degree of joyous evangeli-

"Everyone says that," Kingsolver laughs. "It's always: 'My mother, my sister, my friend, made me read you.' I didn't come to best-seller status through the front door, more through the basement."

It's been a slow climb for Kingsolver, but all that woman-to-woman enthusing has suddenly achieved critical mass. This week The Poisonwood Bible is sitting at number two in the American best-seller lists, having sold 40,000 copies in its first month of publication. The 43-year-old writer is incredulous.

"A challenging book like this, up there with Tom Wolfe?" she shakes her head. "I still can't believe it. Epidemiologically, my books have been read by women because that's where they were introduced and how they spread," she notes, revealing a hint of her earlier career as a hiological scientist, "but now about a third of my mail comes from men."

Maybe the men feel reassured, now she's on an official list, I suggest, "I suppose it has a legitimacy," she nods. "It's not just that underground girlie thing."

Kingsolver, who was born in a small town in rural Kentucky, has now lived for 20 years in the scrubby desert country around Tucson, not far from the Mexican border, where wild, woolly peccaries and roadrunners rootle all day around the mesquite woods outside her cabin. Both landscapes have stamped themselves hard into the distinctive heart of her fiction.

Underpinned by a commanding political conscience, a belief in the ties of community, and a rapturous sense of wonder in the natural world, Kingsolver's stories chart the lives of witty, courageous women coping as best they can with calamity. Animal Dreams pits personal family losses against the encroaching threat of an environmental disaster and the broader background conflict in Nicaragua. The Bean Trees sends an adventurous young experience has resurfaced in her prowoman scuttling away from her hometown in a VW Beetle, determined not to end her



Up there with Tom Wolfe?' Barbara Kingsolver shakes her head. I still can't believe it'

days barefoot and pregnant, hog-tied to a future as a tobacco farmer's wife - yet a couple of hours out of town the car's trashed and she's found herself the custodian of an abused Cherokee baby.

"The people I write about are always in a pickle," she admits. "I don't write about women with easy lives, because I don't write science fiction, you know? My books are about survival rather than manners. Where I grew up, that's what occupied people. My writing has always been about my passions. Most writers tell me they begin with incident or character. My point of origin is always theme. I'm not just putting pretty words together for the fun of it. How could I justify that?"

Kingsolver inherited her humanitarian concerns from her parents, who, she recalls, "set me early on a path of exploring the great, shifting terrain between righteousness and what's right".

In the middle Sixties, when Barbara was about seven years old, they took her with them to central Africa, where they spent a six-month stint as public health workers in an isolated village in the hush. The foundly ambitious new novel, The Poisonwood Bible.

Following an ill-prepared family of American Baptist missionaries deep into the rank malarial jungles of the Belgian Congo in 1959, just as the country staggered towards independence, The Poisonwood Bible is a tenderly comic, but harrowing, tale of family and national catastrophe. Bearing Betty Crocker cake-

'I don't write about women with easy lives, because I don't write science fiction

mixes, pinking-shears, embroidery hoops, and packets of Kentucky Wonder beans, four young girls, their terrified mother Orleanna and their fire-and-hrimstone preacher father set off to bring salvation to Africa. Shackled to a singularly unyielding vision of the world, the Rev Price unsuccessfully tries to bend the villagers to his will, attempting to baptise his parishioners in a crocodile-infested river. and mistranslating his own sermons. Incapable of recognising the tonal subtlety

thunder out the message 'Jesus is beloved", as "Jesus is poisonwood", a venomous local tree with sap that burns savage, suppurating welts into human flesh.

misunderstanding born out of this combination of absolute faith and arrogance," Kingsolver explains, "We all have it in us to think we are right, blundering along, insisting on our way of seeing things." A wondrously compelling narrative,

The Poisonwood Bible slowly reveals assassination of the Congolese leader Mobutu's repressive puppet government. "I wanted to tackle this issue of the post-

colonial world and where we stand in it." says Kingsolver. "Of course, this is a fence is to pretend there's no thread of whole tradition of literature in your country, hut in the States we're just beginning to look at our culpability."

The defining moment for kingsolver came in her twenties, when she first pitched up in the south-western states and found herself forced to confront American foreign policy head on.

of the Kikongo language, be continues to places such as El Salvador, created by my tax dollars, yet they weren't even allowed

Nicola Kurtz

to cross the border to flee the death I was helping to pay for," she whispers, in a warm, soft voice that burns with big-"The whole book is about a legacy of sisterly compassion. "Like Orleanna and the girls, we didn't make it happen, we were the captive

witnesses. But this was done in our name: now what? How do we incorporate it into our own stories and make something of it we can carry forward?

"We seem to be living in the age of itself as a complex parable about CIA anaesthesia," Kingsolver remarks in ber interference in Africa. specifically the collection of essays High Tide in Tucson. "Confronted with the knowledge of Patrick Lumumba, and the CIA's role in dozens of apparently random disasters each day, what can a human heart do but slam its doors? We didn't evolve to cope with tragedy on a global scale. Our deevent that connects us, and that those lives are somehow not precious and real like our own." The antidote to apathy, Kingsolver believes, is fiction. "A novel can make us weep over the same events that might hardly give us pause if we read them in a newspaper.'

"Here were people fleeing wars in "The Poisonwood Bible', Faber, £10.99

### Sung for laughs

MUSICAL COMEDY

FASCINATING AIDA THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET LONDON

LIKE MILITARY intelligence, musical comedy can be one of those great oxymorons. There is a preternaturally high risk of wince-inducing embarrassment whenever a comic performer is in the same room as a piano. As evidence, I need mention only two words: "Richard" and "Stilgoe".

So it is the credit of the musical comedy trio, Fascinating Aida, that, far from wincing, their first-night audience at the Theatre Royal Haymarket on Tuesday was laughing heartily. The threesome - Dillie Keane, Adele Anderson and Issy van Randwyck have long been adept at absurd juxtapositions. Done up like glamorous guests at a cocktail party thrown by Noel Coward, they effortlessly slip ignoble thoughts about, say, Richard Gere and gerbils into a perfectly executed piece of three-part harmony: They use a sweet form to deliver incongruously bitter content; many of their most upbeat songs are about disappointment and failure.

Their other skill lies in smoothly changing gear. Early on in their show, Burefaced Chic, they segued from "Best Seller", a romping ditty about Aga sagas ("Where women learn to be assertive./ And there's lots of knobbing, but it's always furtive"), into a plaintive medley of songs about broken hearts.

Undoubtedly, Fascinating Aida are slick. The first half of the show, which is directed by Clarke Peters on an awayday from Chicago, neatly employs the conceit that the trio are backstage warming up and being chivvied by a stage-hand to get a move on. More than once during the evening, clever spills into clever-clever - I have to confess that their song about genetically modified food lost me.

Just occasionally, Fascinating Aida also teetered on the brink of being hackneyed, singing ditties that reminded me of the "humorous" musical section in That's Life, Songs about subjects such as Monica Lewinsky, Bill Clinton and Viagra are going to win originality awards only from people just returning from a twoyear trek to the North Pole.

For all that, Fascinating Aida remain a sparkling act to look at and listen to. In one song, "Mr Springer", they dressed up as trailer trash and had a girl-gang fight as they sang about the problems: "Oh, Mr Springer, can I come on your show?/ My mum was my dad till a month ago."

And you have to warm to any act that can insert the following tasteless, topical couplet into a song about taboos: Telling Basil Hume he talks a load of twaddle,/ Going in a wheelchair to meet Glenn Hoddle.

JAMES RAMPTON

Fascinating Aida continues at the Theatre Royal Haymarket, London (0171-930 8800) until 6 March. Then touring nationally

#### Gods and monsters, we've got 'em

TUESDAY WAS quite a big day, one way and another, for Sir Ian McKellen. In the afternoon, he received the news that he had been Oscar-nominated for Gods and Monsters. In the evening, he triumphantly took to the stage as Prospero at the opening of Jude Kelly's production of The Tempest. a play that has, of course, its fair share of monsters and gods. How do you cap that in a 24hour spree? Discover that the Blessed Virgin has touched down in your dressing-room for a post-show Horlicks and is shift waving her autograph book in your direction...

The Tempest is the third and last event in the West Yorkshire Playhouse's vividly successful experiment in scheduling a season of drama with a resident company. One of the great benefits of seeing the same actors in a range of works is

THEATRE THE TEMPEST WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE

that it encourages you to notice sly connections and contrasts for example, has just finished portraying Garry Essendine, that arch control freak and Noël Coward's alter ego in Present Laughter. This succession of roles alerts you to just how much of a control freak the magician Prospero is.

Glamour-wise, McKellen's Prospero is at the opposite end of the scale from the silkdressing-gowned Garry. In his tatty cardigan, battered straw hat and bare white shins, he resembles a day-tripper to Bognor who has fallen on hard

underfoot sheeting and dan- duction are real, most of the gling swags of iron chains, the décor is pure plastic: such enchanted island is here rehis exile.

in Prospero between manioulative rage at his shipwrecked enemies and an uneasy underlying conviction that the origihave been partly his fault. Even at the zenith of his power, he delivers the rousing "Ye elves of hills, brooks, standing lakes..." speech in the touching, disarrayed tones of a headmaster part of the standard in the rousing speech in the touching, disarrayed tones of a headmaster part of the standard in the standard i who has privately handed in his resignation but needs to keep up appearances at assembly. If the emotions in this pro-

sheeting creates, among other imagined as a bleakly derelict things, wigwams for the spirits correctional institute. As he en- in the celestial masque and the ters, McKellen adds another huge wings that tumble like a chalk mark to the wall, as cataract from the lofty Ariel though counting off the days of when he confronts the men of sin. The casting of actresses as In an exquisitely calibrated, these latter does not work: low-key performance he contheir scenes come over too veys to perfection the struggle much like a butch fancy-dress party Consequently the crucial episode where the primary usurpation is so nearly reenacted goes for little, and the nal wrongs done to him may performers playing Stephano and Trinculo lack the comic presence to sell the slapstick

> A version of this review nppeared in later editions of yes-



Claudie Blakley and Ian McKellen in 'The Tempest'

### The model of an English burlesque

THE KISSING-DANCE or She Stoops to Conquer. That's an or", note, not an "either or". Charles Hart and Howard Goodall are insistent that Oliver Goldsmith is still very much the driving force of their "burlesque musical comedy" for the National Youth Music in the word play. Goldsmith Theatre. The play's the thing. But then, so is the musical.

Hart, in particular, enjoys much sport with Goldsmith, reading the text with his smart and rapacious lyrics, manipulating this comedy of ill manners so that its late-18thcentury spirit is possessed of tantalising tasters, promise as

MUSICAL

THE KISSING DANCE NATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC THEATRE LONDON

a late-20th-century tone. It's all would, I fancy, have applauded Hart's dexterity and been more than happy to have him put words into his mouth. Hart and Goodall's "song strategy" is on the button: sometimes, their musical interjections take the form of quasi-recitatives - the entire evening. As Lumpup and down like a harlot's gown". That's Hart. Could

are fully fledged "numbers", in a way that has oothing to do illuminating key intrigues and with pastiche and can be deforwarding plot with Gold- fined only by its own very smithian panache. There's a sweet, quirky, very distinctive particularly fine example when character. The title number is Marlow and Hastings stop at a case in point - a shadowy the Fur and Feathers to ask little idyll of a tune, insidiously directions to Nonesuch House. memorable. Goodall's love of Tony Lumpkin's incompre- polyphony (the English choral hensible rewriting of the Ord-tradition) makes for some nance Survey puts the spin on smashing ensembles, while his instrumentation cleverly kin later reminds us: "It's been hints at period and local colour, a piano accordion pointing up the inheritance of street music, Goldsmith have done better? a solo trumpet lending both

Hardcastle's jewels.

piece, no question, but for now we have NYMT and the vision of directors Russell Labey and Jeremy James Taylor to thank for its first outing. If you're taleot-spotting, you don't have to look far. On Tuesday night, initial nervousness made for inhibition and a sense of the castle, while Neil Clench's house being underplayed. For a while the show was under starter's orders. But not for long. Ian Virgo's engaging Then there's Goodall's melancholy and a hlast of the Tony Lumpkin was banking

yet unfulfilled; but mostly they music, its Englishness inbred tally-ho's to his racy Act 1 on a photo-finish from the off; finale, the "hunt" for Lady Akiya Henry's Constance took a feverish turn on the virginal; There's a future for this Alexander Hassell amusingly caught Marlow's breakdown of co-ordination when confronted with girls "of his own station"; Michael Jibson was affecting as Hastings; and Simon Thomas, as his servant Stingo, upstaged even his funny hat. Funny, too, was Jess Brooks' Mrs Hardglowering Dick Hardcastle was always going to fall victim to some Stoppardian name-play. "Small, Dick?" Naturally. EDWARD SECKERSON



### FILM

### All poison and no darts

THE BIG PICTURE



ANTHONY QUINN

YDUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS (18) DIRECTOR: NEIL LABUTE STARRING: BEN STILLER, CATHERINE KEENER, AMY BRENNEMAN. JASON PATRIC 100 MINUTES

ne presumes it was a joke on the distributors' part to schedule the reease of Neil LaBute's Your Friends and Neighbors on Valentine's weekend. It's hard to think of a film less likely to promote the cause of romantic togetherness, unless you count this writer-director's debut effort of last year, In the Company of Men. In that movie LaBute took for his model the duplicitous machinations of Restoration comedy and recast it in the harsh accents of the corporate American male, presenting the hateful but compelling story of two whitecollar executives who woo a deaf office temp and simultaneously dump ber.

After being roundly beaten with the misogynist stick in the US for In the Company of Men, LaBute has broadened his field of fire: this time men and women compete to be as appalling as each other. Its hatred seems more even-handed, though you'd be excused for not rejoicing at the news. The film daisychains an ensemble of urban thirtysomethings who are, to one degree or another, sex- and self-obsessed. (In LaBute's world, the two appear indivisible). Our first glimpse of Cary (Jason Patric) sets the tone: he's in bed practising his pillow talk with stop-watch and tape recorder just prior to the arrival of his latest amour. Barry (Aaron Eckhart) prefers masturbation to making love with his wife, Mary (Amy Brenneman), who may be frigid: "She's wonderful," says Barry, "but she's just not... me." Jerry (Ben Stiller) has been rebuffed for talking during sex by his girlfriend Terri (Catherine Keener), who is later disposed to declare, "Fucking is

fucking. It's not a time for sharing. I don't care what anybody says." There are far nastier lines than that, but in their callous self-absorption those three sentences represent the closest thing to a philosophy these characters share. Jerry. who's a drama teacher, tells his class that for all the "language and lace" of Wycherley, "it's always about fucking". Or, in his case, it's always about fucking talking: Jerry just doesn't know when to shut up. Even on an adulterous rendezvous with his best friend's wife, he can't help jawing on about "fate" and "optimism" and - the last thing the wife wants to hear - her husband. When, finally, Jerry's unable to get it up, you feel that something like just deserts



Amy Brenneman, Nastassja Kinski and Catherine Keener. 'LaBute uses his camera dispassionately, like an eavesdropper'

have been served. The mood of betrayal takes hold: Terri falls into bed with a beautiful gallery assistant, Cheri (Nastassia Kinski), while Jerry, in a fit of pique, tells his best friend that he's cuckolded him.

You will have gathered that none of this makes for an edifying illustration of modern sexual manners. More surprisingly, it doesn't make for a very entertaining one either. As he did in his first film, LaBute uses his camera dispassionately, like an eavesdropper, and works almost entirely within enclosed spaces. He contrasts the civilised settings of bookstore, restaurant and art gallery with the savagely unpleasant things men and women say to one

sure if Chad and Howard in In the Company of Men were plotting the woman's downfall or each other's, the action of Your Friends and Neighbors never sets up a long game: we always know as much, if not more, than his characters do. This might not matter were the language as barbed as the misanthropy, but there's a halting, Pinterish blankness at the heart of this movie. LaBute is so much in love with the idea of people's selfish, despicable ways that he has overreached his means of at-

tack; he has all the poison, hut no darts. This shortcoming is most evident in his

another. But whereas one could never be stud who puts the art into heartlessness. To be honest, his routine with the stopwatch and tape recorder seems quite out of keeping with his avowed cynicism - surely he would regard even the pretence of enhancing a woman's pleasure as beneath him? His big set-piece is a monologue in a steam-room about the best sex he's ever had: as Jerry and Barry listen, half excited, half appalled, Cary reveals that the best of all was, in fact, a boy he raped in summer camp. It's difficult to tell whether he's making it up or not, but its effect is to suggest a rather less dramabe possibility than was actually intended: could be he's gay. depiction of the Jason Patric character, a In any case, Cary's loathsomeness feels

way overcooked. Malignity requires more stealth than a poster-boy with ripped torso

and a perpetual glaze of boredom. The rest of the cast seems enervated by LaBute's virulence. Catherine Keener. wonderful in Tom DiCillo's movies, is saddled here with such a snitty-hitch role you can't see how anyone might fall for her. Aaron Eckhart, who bit off his lines with vicious delight in Company, is a bumbling sad sack, while Amy Brememan and Nastassja Kinski are little more than emotional punchbags. Only Ben Stiller manages to establish a character; his Jerry is a creep, but at least he goes some way to making that creepiness involving

The most common complaint levelled at realistic movies such as this goes, "I didn't care enough about the characters". LaBute could get away with this if he gave his characters better lines, better scenes - some sense, at least, that their cruelty is enjoyable or interesting to them, as it was to the powdered double-dealers of the Restoration comedies he so admires. No: his aim is simply to compel the audience into guilty recognition of their own fallen state. The implication is that Terri, Jerry, Cary et al are just like our nearest and dearest. Bot are they really? They're not my friends or my neighbours. And I dare say they're not yours either.

#### ALSO SHOWING

LA VITA E BELLA ROBERTO BENIGNI (PG) IN DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART WILLI PATERSON (PG) IN JACK FROST TROY MILLER (PG ) IN MY GLANT MICHAEL LEHMANN (PG) 📕 I THINK I DO BRIAN SLOAN (PG) 📕 SWITCHBLADE SISTERS JACK HILL (18) 🖷 HOTEL DU NORD MARCEL CARNÉ (PG)

THE ITALIAN comedian and director Roberto Benigni attempts a dara tragicomic fable about survival in the Holocaust. Benigni, playing Guido, a Jewish waiter in pre-war Arezzo, spends the first half of the movie getting into scrapes, twitting the town Fascists and courting a local schoolteacher (Nicoletta Braschi). Then the nightmare of Nazism impinges on the idyll: romantic slapstick abruptly gives way to the horror of a concentration camp. where Guido tries to protect his young son's innocence by pretending that the prison regimes are all part of an elaborato game.

It's difficult to underestimate the risk Benigni takes here. Comedy and the death camps will never make casy companions, and for most of the film's second half I seemed to be holding my breath in fear of some teeth on edge. For all its flaws, howdire misjudgement by the film- ever, we are left feeling only good-

makers. La Vita è Bella does touch moments of heartrending pathos, as when the little boy (played hauntfather where the other children are. "They're all hiding," is the father'a desperate reply. Yet while we can't help being moved by the lengths this exhausted fantasist goes to shield his son from the truth, there are passages bere that prompt our unease. The basic implausibility of his free movement around the camp, his farcical translation of German orders to the assembled inmates, the grandly romantic gesture of broadcasting a love song to his wife (who's forgotten for long stretches of the film) all provide too stark a contrast with the grim atrocities we sense in

the background. And the coating of Chaplinesque sentimentality may well set your will towards Benigni, not just for the foolhardy courage of his film, but for his exuberant humanity.

A little of his spirit would have been appreciated amid the scrum of this week's other films. Don't Go Breaking My Heart is an earnest Anglo-American comedy that's puppyishly eager to please, despite having one of the worst scores in recent movie memory. Jenny Seagrove plays a grieving widow whose dentist (Charles Dance) resorts to the creepy stratagem of hypnotising

ber into falling in love with him. His scheme goes awry when she cute-meets an American sports therapist (Anthony Edwards), who's coaching her teenage son in the 1,500 metres. Will hypnotism or true love win the day? Britcom writing and some wobbly direction betray a basic lack of confidence, but ER heart-throb Edwards (the other one) provides a likeable presence.



"La Vita è Bella"

Life-affirming nonsense, Part One: Jack Frost stars Michael Reaton as a rock musician who dies in a car accident, then comes back to life as a snowman. In this guise he gets to bond with the young Jack Frost, it jerks shamelessly on son (Joseph Cross) whom he neglected in favour of his career. I suppose we ought to be used to Hollywood infantilism, but I watched in slack-jawed amazement as this through tears and say, "Please love tale of parental redemption kept top- me". How needy can you get?

ping its own inanity. Worst of the year so far, but it would be unwise to make predictions, with the Robin Williams vehicle Patch Adams heading mexorahly towards a cinema near you.

Life-affirming nonsense, Part Two: Billy Crystal does another of his feisty underdog routines as Sammy, the lowly talent agent of My Giant. Desperate for a break, he fetches up in Romania and accidentally discovers a 7ft 6in giant named Max (Gheorghe Muresan).

Hotfooting it back to Hollywood, Sammy tries to get his outsize client a part in a Steven Seagal picture some agent! - and then reunite him with his long-lost teenage love. Like the heart-strings as Crystal decides that professional kudos is no match for personal fulfilment - a roundabout means for him to smile

I Think I Do is a so-so ensemble comedy about a bunch of college friends reuniting for a wedding. Alexis Arquette plays Boh, still smarting from his unrequited love for ex-room-mate Brendan (Christian Maelan) who's now, it seems, an ex-heterosexual, too. Around them a perky and unfamiliar cast negotiates a route through the wedding party's in-laws and in-tows. Writer/ director Brian Sloan shows intermittent flair for nifty social observation; his directing, however, is pretty leaden, and he relies too much on the slender charm of Arquette to carry the picture. It passes

the time agreeably, all the same. For a dose of authentic Seventies scuzziness, you might try Jack Hill's Switchblade Sisters, a low-budget gang flick whose sets look flimsier than a Cariton game show. Lace (Robbie Lee), the top moll, be-

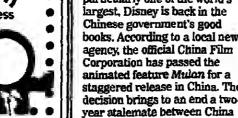
Nail), and together their girl gang take on a rival outfit led by the attractively named Crabs (Chase Newhart); then romantic jealousy sets the two girls at daggers, and hell hreaks loose. Aficionados of bad taste, rotten acting and the outer limits of Seventies fashion will enjoy it, though the rape scenes and knifefights will ensure that its following remains strictly underground.

Finally, a French valentine from 1938. Marcel Carné's Hotel du Nord combines the smokily poetic with the shabbily mundane: despairing lovers (Annabella and Jean-Pierre Aumont) flub a suicide pact, while Parisian lowlife - prostitutes, pimps, fugitives - mills unconcernedly around. Carné's wistful fatalism is a perfect match for Alexandre Trauner's lovingly detailed set design.

friends wildcat Maggie (Joanne All films on release from tomorrow

(( batman: four films, four different actors. is it time to stop?)) live webscussions nowww in progress

www.friendfactory.co.uk rant and rave for free



NEVER ONE to alienate a market. particularly one of the world's largest, Disney is back in the Chinese government's good books. According to a local news agency, the official China Film Corporation has passed the animated feature Mulan for a staggered release in China. The decision brings to an end a twoand the studio. Predictably, the Chinese authorities weren't exactly over the moon when, in 1996, the studio decided to produce Martin Scorsese's paean to the exiled Dalai Lama, Kundun. The good news comes a week after Disney's rival, Dreamworks, heard that Malaysia had banned The Prince of Egypt, on religious grounds.

RUSHES MIKE HIGGINS

ELIZABETH TAYLOR is gearing up for a return to the hig screen and, if this week's rumours are to be believed, it's going to be a belter. She'll play Dorothy who, 50 years after she skipped down the yellow brick road, returns to Oz as widowed pensioner. Rod Steiger, who broke the news in an interview, will play the

Cowardly Lion, "now so tough he

has become a gangster and scares everyone to death". Can't wait.

CATHERINE ZETA Jones isn't hanging round after her turn in The Mask of Zorro. Gossip has it has it that Jones is in the running to don the boots for a new Wonder Woman movie.

AH, SWEET justice. An Alon Smithee Film: Burn Hollywood Burn - Joe Eszterhas's film about the production of the worst film ever -, this week looked poised for a victory in the Golden Raspberries. The Raspberries honour the year's turkeys and Eszterhas's horror has managed to scoop an epic nine nominations.

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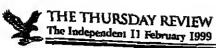
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### No rest for the afflicted

Paul Schrader's new film, Affliction, has been nominated for two Oscars. It's a harrowing tale of male violence. Business as usual, then. By Kevin Jackson

aul Schrader has never been thought of as the most happygo-lucky of film-makers. His screenplays include a trio of savage character dramas for Martin Scorsese - Taxi Driver, Raging Bull and The Last Temptation of Christ; his directorial credits include the likes of The Comfort of Strongers, from Ian McEwan's novel about murderous perversity in Venice, and Mishima, which (to the best of my knowledge) is the only Hollywood production ever to be shot entirely in Japanese, and to take for its hero a bisexual, quasi-fascist writer who cuts his own belly out in the last reel.

Even so, the title of Schrader's latest film is uncompromising to the point of commercial seppulcu. It's hard to imagine many lovers scanning though the listings pages and cooing: "Darling, how about going to the cinema next week? They're showing Affliction."

Schrader's production certainly won't be fiering much compebbon to Shakespeare in Love as an ideal date movie, and yet in the US, where it was released last year, Affliction ended up on the Top Ten lists of several critics for Film Comment - laurels were piled especially high on the craggy head of its leading actor, Nick Nolte - and the film has been hailed as a major return to form for one of America's most gifted and lotelligent directors.

All this thoughtful acclaim has been an unexpectedly bappy ending to a pre-production history so protracted and frusrating that the project seemed to be starting to live up to its name. "After four or five years, I had pretty much given up

in a really big, red-corpuscled role again, after wasting too much of his time in highbudget fluff, and partly to the sheer tenacity of Schrader's regular producer, Linda Riesman, a deal was made: "I was off directing Touch (an adaptation of an Elmore Leonard novel about a faith-healer) when the word came through that Affliction was

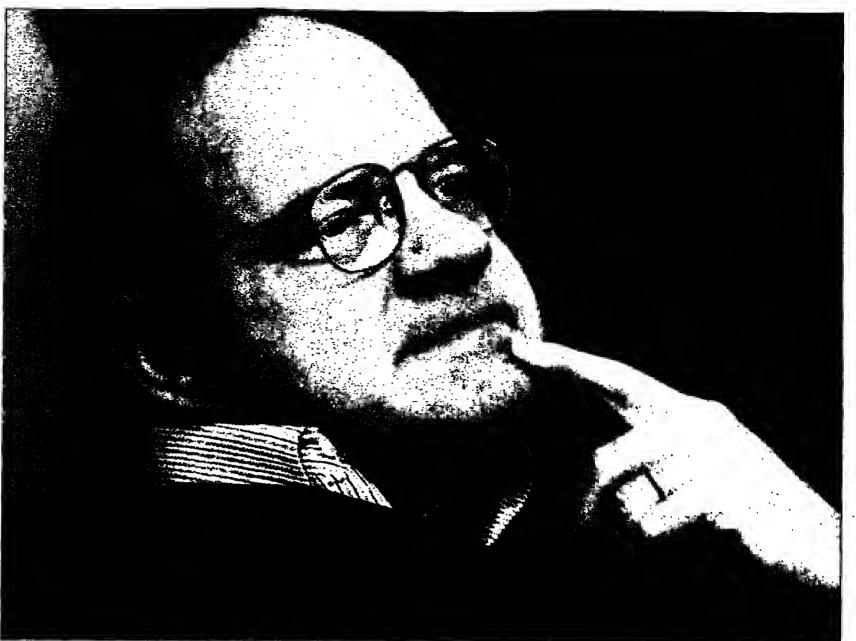
finally going to happen."

Affliction is closely based oo a novel by Russell Banks. Schrader simply "picked the novel up in a bookshop. It just grabbed me, I optioned it myself, wrote a screenplay and took it straight to Nick."

One of the qualibes that made the novel so irresistible for Schrader was its reflective treatment of a subject that has preoccupied him in some of his earlier films: "The whole issue of male violence, those anachronistic genes, where we have all this stuff in our DNA that we don't know what to do with any more - that need to go out and kill, and eat what we've killed."

While shooting the film, Schrader handed out dozens of copies of a recent study of primate aggression, entitled Demonic Males. "One of the guys on the crew had baseball caps made up for everyone that said, 'Affliction: Demonic Males on Tour."

Russell Banks came along for a good part of the shoot to see how Schrader was putting this novel into images, and liked what he saw. "Russell says that it's the most autobiographical of his books, though he doesn't really say whether its about him and his father, or about his father and his grandfather." And Schrader had several discussions with him about the book's less easily summarised themes.



I'm fascinated by that need to go out and kill and eat what we've killed'

the compulsiveness of the storyteller.

Then there's the complexity of the narrative - it pretends to be about one thing, about a murder, when it's really not about that at all... and underneath it there is a hidden main character who is slowly re-

wince-inducing moment, be wrenches out of his jaw with a pair of old pliers.

More than enough woe for any son of Adam; but Wade's real misery is shown to have begun years before, in the beatings he took from his father - a sneering, shambling, alcoholic thug, played with, That "hidden main character", played appalling authenticity by James Coburn,

One of the crew had baseball caps made up which said 'Affliction: Demonic Males on Tour'

in the film by Willem Dafoe, is an ostentatiously gentle professor of history who comes back to the small, snowbound New England town where his older hrother, Wade (Nolte), the local cop, is enduring a mid-life crisis of catastrophic dimensions. He's divorced, estranged from his little daughter and humiliated by all the locals, on ever getting it made," Schrader con- "As I got deeper into it, I became more has - and he thinks he's stumbled across a con- men were men and women were babes - this landscape, it's also tempting to see the - a great bile, too: Bringing Out the Dead fesses. But, thanks partly to the commit-cinated by these ideas about the burden spiracy to murder. He's also tortured by a he's someone who isn't into sensitivity film as a kind of return to his childhood. ment of Nick Nolte, who was anxious to act of memory, the clusiveness of memory, and rotten tooth which, in the film's most training. Nick is of that Sixties generation. He's tentative: "I was raised in that envir- 'Affliction' opens on 19 February

who's not been on screen very often in recent years. (He's had afflictions of his own: arthritis in his hands and legs.)

Schrader called Coburn in to play the father because: "Nick and James are only 15 years apart, hut they do represent two generations of Hollywood males. Coburn is of that Fifties generation, where where men are partners, and think what do I do with this woman?" "At one level," Schrader elucidates,

"you're watching the disintegration of a man, and his problems with male violence and his father, At another level, you're watching a movie about the younger brother who observes this situation, has withdrawn from the conflict and, in fact, secretly envies his older brother for being on the front lines. The thematic exchange in the plece is that the younger one says, 'at least I wasn't afflicted by that man's violence', and his brother says, 'that's what you think'. Just because he's gone to Boston and become a professor doesn't mean he's escaped."

Fatalism of this order makes Affliction seem at times like a spiritual cousin of the less cheerful aspects of Scandinavian drama - an association made all the more plausible by the film's unremittingly hleak winter landscapes. Since Schrader himself grew up in a Midwestern counterpart of onment, I know those people. And there are some connections - I have an older brother, a strong father... But I always saw it as Russell's story, not my story. I knew that if I was as faithful to it as I could be, I would be in there somewhere."

Mark Chilvers

Since completing Affliction a couple of years ago - for a while, he feared that it was going to take as loog to find a distributor as it did to find a backer - Schrader has been, as usual, busy. Courting couples who think they might give Affliction a miss may be surprised to hear that his next film as director is an old-fashioned love story (very old-fashioned: it's inspired by Dante and Beatrice, with the appropriately seductive bile, Forever Mine. Those who admire the fiercer strains of his work will be delighted to hear that, after an artistic divorce of a decade and a half, he's been reconciled with Martin Scorsese, and has written the screenplay for Scorsese's new film about paramedics in New York. And this one has

### The second time around

If you could re-make a classic romantic comedy, which would you choose and who would play the lead roles? Charlotte O'Sullivan invites six film critics to play fantasy film-making

to do romantic comedies well and critics form, and what stars would they use? tend to howl when an old gem gets remade. Hackles bave already been raised with regards to You've Got Mail, a loose reworking of Ernst Lubitsch's The Shop Around the Corner. The cry goes up: "Oh they've ruined it! Oh they don't make stars like they used to!"

producer-for-a-day. I'd borrow Preston Sturges's much oeglected The Lady Eve. In it, Barbara Stanwyck plays a card shark American quality. minx who takes a cruise with her wicked pop and, despite herself, falls for Henry Fonda's grimly innocent millionaire ("I live fish"). Stanwyck would be replaced by idie star Parker Posey, a woman, like Stanwyck, whose cheek bones seem to have been chiselled by economic depression (Posev is also the only actress who could do justice to the wonderful "female orgasm" scene). Greg Kinnear - so anxiously wideeved in As Good As It Gets - would step neath into Fonda's shoes.

What of the fussy critics, though? What

HOLLYWOOD, IT'S generally agreed, used old romantic comedies would they trans- - and Kevin Spacey. Both of them have bite.

Anthony Quinn: I've always thought someone should do Preston Sturges's Sullivan's Travels (1941) because the ideas it explores - art us commerce, the enter- be can be a bit soft. Can I have a tainment us issue movie - are still fresh (see Spielberg's Amistad for details). So I'd set But who hasn't dreamt of revamping a it in Nineties Hollywood and have John Cufavourite classic? I certainly have. If I were sack or Tim Robbins in the Joel McCrea part - Cusack's my favourite actor and Robbins has that tall, slightly lumbering, all-

Veronica Lake's part would go to Sharon Stone - she's never had a real shot at doing "funny". It's probably too late for ber to do it, because she's in her early forties now, but I'd kindly give ber a go.

William Wellman's Nothing Sacred (1937). It's a film about journalism, a subject still Instead of Carole Lombard and Fredric loved her in The Truth about Cats & Dogs ist, would be a stalkerazzo, a rat shooting

As for the director, (I am allowed a director aren't I?). Garry Marshall would be my man. I know he did Beaches and Pretty Woman, but he's an underrated director of comedy in my opinion. But it's true, scriptwriter? If so, I'd have Elaine May on board. Trust me, it'll work.

Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian's new critic: I'd want Roman Holiday (1953) because it's such a wonderfully romantic story. I'd re-make it with Will Smith in the Gregory Peck role - for me, Smith is the Gregory Peck of the 21st century, a bit of a lad, big-eared and lovable.

· For the Princess, only Gwyneth Paltrow comes close to being as lovely as Andrey Hepburn. The film would still be set in Tom Charity, Time Out: I'd like to re-make Rome, because I'm into the whole Italian thing-and you could still have Vespa rides. because they're very trendy oow. But the ripe for comedy -more so than ever, in fact. script would o eed updating, the Princess would be a quasi-British, quasi-Diana fig-March, I'd have Janeane Garofalo - I ure and Smith, instead of being a journal-

video footage for the evening news. I'd abolisb the Eddie Albert role and have Smith concealing a hi-tech, Sony cam in his tie, then watching it in his hotel the oext day. He'd be gloating with his producer friends, but something in his heart would be dying.

Philip French, The Observer: I would love to see a re-make of Gone With the Wind (1939). It's very romantic and I've always found it funny. Nothing about the script would be changed, but the white characters would be played by black actors and vice versa. I'd have Angela Bassett as Scarlett O'Hara. Rhett would be played by Denzel Washington, Spike Lee could be Ashley Wilkes and Melanie would be Whoopi Goldberg. As for Mammie, I'd want that woman who was in Beaches. Bette Midler! That would be a very interesting twist.

Neil Norman, Evening Standard: I've got three: Roman Holiday - Irene Jacob and Robbie Coltrane - I'd love to see him doing proper romantic stuff. Pillow Talk (1959), with Anne Heche and Rupert Everett. And finally Ninotchko (1939) with get a finder's fee. It's a film people hardly



Bassett in 'Gone with the Wind'

Greta Garbo and Melvyn Douglas to be replaced by Gwyneth Paltrow and Leonardo DiCaprio, just to see how badly they

Alexander Walker, Evening Standard: I know exactly what film I'd re-make, because Pve beeo recommending it to different producers over the years, boping to



Second chances: Will Smith in an alternative 'Roman Holiday' and Angela Photomontage: Ian Bartholemew

remember, called It's Love I'm After (1937). It originally starred Bette Davis and Leslie Howard as a Broadway couple who resemble the Lunts, and hate each other they perform Shakespeare's Romeo and

Juliet while hissing insults. I'd have Kenneth Branagh and Emma Thompson in the lead roles. Gwyneth Paltrow could be the girl sighing ber beart

#### DOUBLE BILL

JOHN WATERS, DIRECTOR OF 'PECKER', CURRENTLY ON RELEASE, ON HIS IDEAL CINEMATIC PAIRING

THE FACULTY (ROBERT RODRIGUEZ. HURLYBURLY (ANTHONY DRAZEN, 1998)

THESE MOVIES are supposedly at opposite ends of the spectrum, which is the real reason I go to the cinema. I love extremes, so they would show as a double bill at the John Waters Theatre, if there were one. I doo't think they would be a commercial success. The Fuculty is a teen

movie. almost. It's a big. new film about aliens invading teachers, and it's the best high-school concept I bave heard in a



long time: suppose teachers really were from another planet. The cast are snotty, sexy kids with good haircuts - what more could you ask for in a trashy movie?

meant to be trash it tries too hard. I am thinking of films such as Scream and I Know What You Did Last Summer, also written by Kevin Williamson. The Faculty is his best teentrash flick it should win an Oscar for best haircuts. There is one for make-up, after all, and hair is so important in Hollywood.

Hurlyburly, another new film, shows the worst side of homosexuality. The acting is absolutely fabulous; it's torture to spend two bours with these misogynistic, coke-snorting Eighbes monsters.

It's based on a very hip ashy movie? play by David Rabe.
Often when something is And it's one of the best of a

genre that I adore: the love-to-hate-LA type. It's an art film in the best sense of the word, the way they used to be. It's wellacted and it's not MTVpaced. It's a real downer. I always get invigorated by depressing films.

These two movies are not mainstream. One is commercially intelligent the other is intelligent in a very unpleasant way. Most movie-goers don't enjoy both qualities. You could be punched in the face for recommending either of these two movies. Even my friends probably wouldn't like both.

INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

#### from the director of 'in the company of men'



your friends&neighbors.

a modern immorality tale

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OR IN THE CITY

Will the Lawrence murder inquiry report have implications for lawyers seeking to take private prosecutions? By Linda Tsang

# Defence against racism

ould there ever whole matter?" Another barrister, have heen a who has acted for both the prosepublic inquiry into the murder of Stephen
Lawrence if the cutton and the defence, says: "There are certainly problems in taking on a major private prosecution because it is a very different approach. lawyers for his family had not started a private prosecution against the suspects? cause it is a very unterest approach; especially if you have acted mainly as a defence lawyer – but this was a unique situation and one can un-

The question is exercising the legal profession ahead of the publication of the inquiry report, which is expected to contain criticisms of the lawyers for the Lawrence family. "Hindsight is a wonderful thing," said one lawyer. "In many respects, the Lawrence family lawyers have been real heroes - they have had to go up against the legal system, the police and the Government. The family and the lawyers had to force the case back on to the agenda, when it could just have been another statistic."

month that the Lawrence family's barrister, Michael Mansfield QC, and the solicitor Imran Khan are likely to come under criticism in their handling of the private prose-cution of the suspects. The report of main problems that the inquiry has the inquiry, which was chaired by Sir already highlighted. The Metro-William Macpherson of Cluny, is politan Police has been forced to William Macpherson of Cluny, is due to be delivered to the Home Sec-

retary, Jack Straw, next week. rights solicitor, who acted in the charge of the murder squad. Derek Bentley case, says it is easy the result may be that the suspects can never be prosecuted. Who was to know at that stage that there would be a public inquiry into the

derstand why they went down that route. But, as in many cases, with the benefit of hindsight it is easy to say that it would have been advis-able to get a second opinion."

In this particular and unique case, the situation now is that the Metropolitan Police are reported as investigating several new least on the death of the terrogram almost on the death of the teenager almost six years after he was stabbed. But unless there is completely new evi-dence that is incontrovertible – such as a third party saying that he saw certain persons committing the The Independent revealed last crime - the charges cannot be resurrected. "Sad as it is," says the QC, "the suspects have effectively been acquitted."

For others, criticism of the legal make changes in its recruitment policies and Deputy Assistant Com-Benedict Birnberg, a leading civil missioner John Grieve has taken

No part of the criminal justice systo be critical in retrospect. "One can tem has been untouched by the inunderstand that the family felt that quiry. The Society of Black Lawyers. they ought to try every possible av- which made submissions to the inenue and, in retrospect again, they quiry in London and Manchester, were not to know at that stage that has also proposed training on race issues for the Crown Prosecution Service and at all levels of the education system.

The society's chairman, Peter



Doreen Lawrence, with her husband Neville behind, speaking outside the public inquiry into the murder of their son, Stephen

Herbert, says that the inquiry has The legal profession has already agenda rather than merely follow it. barristers, there is more chance of it's that there is clearly a need to shown that racial stereotypes have speculated on the prospects of the What is likely to have a larger imno place in a criminal investigation.

And according to a leader in the field, Tony Edwards, "For criminal lawyers, there aren't massive lessons because colour has not been a problem in terms of lawyers giving better service to one group, but there is a message being sent about polic-ing and the nature of investigations

There is no short-term solution, hut this has concentrated everyone's minds on dealing with deep-seated racism - at all stages of investigation, the prosecution and the judicial stage.

Lawrence family getting justice for the murder of Stephen. Some argue that even if there had been a civil case, it is unlikely that there would have been any pressure for the suspects to attend, and it could have been a damp squib. What the private prosecution did was force job if they go too far.

defence lawyers may act in future, many lawyers consider that, unless the criticism is justified, the fact is that they have tended to set the funded independent solicitors and

pact on how defence lawyers work is the Government's proposals on legal aid in its Access to Justice Bill liament, and the possibility of public defenders who may perceive that they run the risk of losing their

and then highlight the issue.

And far from any possible criticism in the report inhibiting the way

As Brian Barker QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association, comments: "The system should cater for a wide variety of lawyers and that is the importance of having independent lawyers. If you have adequately

getting a just result - for both sides." Other lawyers have suggested further routes for the Lawrence

case. One option, following a recent Human Rights, is to mount a legal challenge against the police be-cause of their inadequate investigation of the case originally. But, as As Brian Barker QC, chairman of the lawyers acknowledge, this will the Criminal Bar Association, com-Lawrence family want - the guilty parties being brought to justice.

Vicki Chapman, head of policy at the Legal Action Group, says: "If there are any lessons to be learnt,

have a police force that has a representative mix, and a need for better training on race issues. It is crucial that you create a police that is currently going through Par- case in the European Court of force where ethnic minority recruits want to stay; the statistics have shown for some time that a large number are leaving because of discrimination in the force itself."

These are hardly new or startling revelations, as Chapman adds: "It is 17 years since the Scarman report was published. If we had learnt the lessons from that report, we wouldn't have had to have the Lawrence inquiry."

### Invasion of the bean-counters

Are the ethics of accountancy and law too at odds for a shared practice? By Robert Kingston

top five accountancy giants into the legal marketplace seemed unstoppable - until all have moved into practicalthis year. But the record £3.5m ly every field of commercial fines and costs imposed on advice - management consul-Coopers & Lybrand over fail- tancy, investigative accountings in its audit work on the late Robert Maxwell's business empire, and the recent ruling of nance. The legal marketplace the House of Lords on "Chinese" is the only area where they Walls" in the Prince Jefri case. have given the world's largest professional service conglomerates pause for thought. They have also given worried commercial solicitors a little hreathing space from what

slaught of the bean-counters. The Big Five - KPMG. Deloitte & Touche, Arthur An-

were all originally pure audit firms. But in the last 10 years, have failed so far to make a sig-

nificant mark But they are determined to change that. In December last year, Edward Kangas, global chairman of Deloitte & Touche, told the press that he intended they saw as the relentless on- to build a global legal practice to rival some of the higgest commercial law firms within loitte & Touche, Arthur An-dersen. Ernst & Young and Gerard Nicolay, global legal

Coopers, said his firm aimed to become a top international law firm within a year.

But the full implications of the judgment of five law lords delivered in the same month are still being absorbed. The legal battle that led to the ruling began when the Sultan of Brunei fell out with his younger brother, Prince Jefri Bolkiah. The Sultan removed the Prince from his government post and the finance ministry instructed KPMG to investigate a series of transfers of capital made when Prince Jefri was chairman. The problem for KPMG was that its forensic accountants had for 18 months been

lier. There was a danger of a serious conflict of interest.

The team had been given access to documents detailing the Prince's assets and finances, and were acting as pseudo-sosearching for documents, drafting subpoenas and suggesting how the Prince's counsel should cross-examine witnesses in court. Now the same department was being asked to investigate missing funds for the government - and the Prince was the chief suspect.

Although systems were put in place to ensure that no one who had worked for the Prince would work on this new project, advising the Prince in long-run-ning litigation, which had been jected. The case went all the

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THE ADVANCE of the world's PricewaterhouseCoopers - head of Pricewaterhouse- settled only a few months ear- way to the House of Lords, and the judges ruled that the accountants had not eliminated the risk of leaks. The decision followed the old City adage: there is no Chinese wall over which a grapevine cannot grow. The case has sent solicitors and accountants scurrying to look at their own procedures to pre-

> More generally, the Prince Jefri case and the Coopers & Lybrand fine have given the solicitors ammunition in their arguments that the rules which prevent multi-disciplinary practices or "one-stop shops" where clients can get advice on law, accountancy, management and tax - should be kept in place. The more cynical of solicitors have always argued that the "ethics" of lawyers and

vent conflicts of interest.

accountants are too different. Current Law Society rules force accountancy practices to hive off their lawyers into sep-arate firms. And these firms already discourage their lawyers from advising clients preparing for litigation, precisely because of the danger of conflicts with audit clients

One solicitor, a partner at Kingsley Napley, Tony Sacker, says: "This is telling the Big Five accountancy firms that setting up a true multi-disciplinary is rather more complicated than they might think." Another partnership specialist, Ronnie Fox at Fox Williams, describes it as a "red light" to the expansion plans of the Big Five. But for most consumers of legal services, multi-disciplinary practices are seen as the way of the future, with, for example, high street law firms setting up with estate agents

and accountants to provide advice on all aspects of property and investment - and at competitive rates. The Law Society is currently considering the rules, and is expected to make its decision later this year.

What these recent events do is warn clients that even if the Law Society does relax its rules, the rule of law will force them to keep the solicitors apart. It is a hiccup rather than an insurmountable hurdle to the one-stop shop.

#### Job losses and Rice Krispies don't mix

mergers and the resulting OUR LEARNED possible redundancies are broadcast every day. They FRIEND are seen as a fact of business life, and necessary in an economic climate where consolidating and dominating the market is the way to survive and thrive. But the merger in

1996 to create the insurance company Royal & SunAlliance has caught the attention of the press for a different reason. The MSF union

(Manufacturing, Science and Finance) is claiming that it was insufficiently consulted when their employers implemented mass redundancies. It goes on to say that when oh losses were announced by Royal & SunAlliance, the first that employees heard of it was on the BBC Radio 4 Today programme - which later led the exercise to be called the

redundancies" The employment tribunal proceedings are still continuing, and the money at stake is an award covering each employee for a maximum of 90 days' pay in addition to any termination monies they received on redundancy.

"Rice Krispies

With more than 5,000 jobs at stake, the claim amounts, potentially, to millions of pounds. The union claims that

any subsequent discussions were a sham because the company had announced approximate job losses. Although it is

inappropriate to comment on the case itself while it is continuing with mergers being announced every week there are points to note that may avoid others having to hear similar news over breakfast - and may forestall future



JOHN MCMULLEN

The law on consultation and information on mass redundancies is one of the lesser known areas of employment law. Although the 1975 EC directive that introduced the first legal code requiring employers to inform and consult employee representatives on mass redundancies appeared to be fairly innocuous, over the years it has been improved and made stricter.

Now, under the 1992 Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act, if any employer proposes to make 20 or more employees redundant at any one establishment, then consultation has to begin in good time; and if 100 or more employees are to be made redundant, then it has to be at least 90 days before the first dismissal is made and, in other cases, 30 days.

And that consultation process has to include ways of avoiding dismissals, reducing the numbers of employees to be dismissed and mitigating the consequences for the workers who have lost their jobs. The whole process has to be undertaken so that agreement is reached with the employees' representatives. Although just

announcing the expected number of redundancies does not in itself constitute a breach of those provisions, it is absolutely clear that once the process is under way, consultation

on redundancies must be

meaningful, and be carried

out in good faith. And, perhaps because of the fall in trade union membership over the last two decades, since 1995 these provisions have applied not only in relation to recognised trade unions but to every workplace. If there is no recognised trade union, you must deal with the elected employee

representative. Essentially, the wheel has turned almost full circle, imposing more and more rules on employers, and there is more to come. In the spring, the Department of Trade and Industry will publish new regulations which will toughen employee representatives' rights, and these will include the right to take time off to

train for that role. Looking even further ahead, the recently published draft European Directive on National Works Councils will mean that employers will have to consult such councils on plant closures and redundancies. In its present draft form, if that duty is broken, one sanction is to nullify the entire redundancy

programme. This is an age of increasing employee involvement, and employers will have to wake up to that or risk viewing future merger and redundancy announcements as the beginning of expensive and time-consuming litigation.

Dr John McMullen is national head of employment law at

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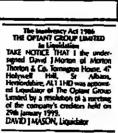
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#### **NEW FILMS**

A BUG'S LIFE (()) Director: John Lasseter Starring: David Foley, Kevin Spacey See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road. Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. And local cinemas

HIDEOUS KINKY (15) **Director:** Gillies Mackinnon

Starring: Kate Winslet, Said Taghmaoul Through the teeming orange/red/turquoise backdrop of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Winslet's bippie single-mum, her two daughters (Bella Riza, Carrie Mullan) unwillingly in tow. Meantime, gormless backpackers, Sufi teachers, thieving natives and Said Taghmaoui's child-ofthe soil love interest weave hither and thither across the narrative. Regeneration director Mackinnon makes a fair fist of translating Esther Freud's novel to the screen; stirring in lots of ethnic chic and a canny period soundtrack. Winslet does well with a change-of-pace role as the tale's permanently strung-out, unsated matriarch, and the child stars are startlingly good. West End: Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Curzon Minema, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. Local: Kilburn Tricycle Cinema, UCI Surrey Quays. Repertory: Phoenix Cinema.

**HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (15)** Director: Kevin Sullivan

Starring: Angela Bassett, Whoopi Goldberg Stella got her groove back like this. She took off to Jamaica with her feisty buddie (Whoopi Goldberg), sashayed around the beach in a clinging bikini, and got herself a little love action in the form of a man (Taye Diggs) young enough to be her son. So it goes: Shirley Volentine with an

Afro-American spin. Terry MacMillan's bestseller has been conjured into a kind of ongoing travelagent commercial - a coldly marketed "chickflick" enjoying a run at cinemas before cropping up as your in-flight entertainment. Title star Angela Bassett works hard to make an impression among the slide-show of tourist-brochure visuals.

West End: Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham Cineworld the Movies, Harrow Warner Village. Holloway Odeon, Peckham Premier, Staples Corner Virgin, Streatham Odeon, New Stratford Picture House, UCI Surrey Quays

LIVING OUT LOUD (15) Director: Richard LaGravenes Starring: Holly Hunter, Danny DeVito See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. Local: Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12.

PECKER (18) Director: John Waters Starring: Edward Furlong, Christina Ricci,

Peckham Premier, Streatham ABC

Trasb auteur Waters swerves into sunnier streets with Pecker, his fluffily satirical tale of an amateur Baltimore photographer (Edward Furlong) adopted as a fly-on-the-wall artiste by the New York elite. More Hairspray than Pink Flamingos, Pecker goes big on blue-collar kitsch without ever making any real, stringent point, and squanders Christina Ricci (as Furlong's hard-nosed girlfriend) into the bargain. The result is entirely genial, but you miss the old risk, edge and bad-taste artistry. Age, it seems, has mellowed John Waters. West End: Claphom Picture House, Metro, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Haymarket

Xan Brooks

#### GENERAL RELEASE

Lili Taylor

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

The follow-up to Babe tosses the bapless "sbeep-pig" into the midst of the city where he becomes the unlikely saviour of a bunch of assorted waifs. West End: Plaza. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Bexleyheath Cineworld, r Croydon Warner Village, Dagenham Warner · Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Warner Village North Finchley, Harrow Warner Village, Holloway Odeon, Peckham Premier, Richmond Odeon Studio. Sutton UCI 6, UCI Surrey Quays. Wimbledon Odeon

BULWORTH (18)

Disillusioned at the end of an electioo campaign, senator Jay Bulworth (Warren Beattyl turns suicidal loose cannon; hanging out in the 'hood and delivering his speeches in abrasive rap stylings. West End: Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket. Warner Village West End. Local: Catford ABC, Croydon Clocktower. Croydon Safari, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Warner Village Finchley Road, Peckham Premier, Wimbledon Udeon Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre

ELIZABETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's story of a woman struggling to gain purchase in a male world largely oeglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence : triumphing over cruelty. West End: ABC Panton Street, Clapham Picture

House, Curzon Minema, Odeon Mezzanine

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse, probes a political cover-up and gets embroiled in all manner of Big Brother-type trouble. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero, And local cinemas

FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (18) Terry Gilliam's adaptation tilts at Ralph Steadman cartoonery for its tale of a drug-fuelled journalistic assignment. The film sooo descends into a carnival of narcotic lunacy, but the one stand-out is Johnny Depp - who brings Hunter S Thompsoo to bald-beaded, pigeon-toed life. West End: Gate Notting Hill Repertory: Prince Charles, The Lux Cinema

HILARY AND JACKIE (15)

Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and hirmily Watson sustains, Anand Tucker's hiopic of The Du Pre sisters, Hilary (shy, married flautist) and Jacqueline (world-famous cellist). West End: Barbican Screen. Chelsea Cinema, Clapham. Picture House. Curzon Mayfair, Curzon Soho. Gate Notting Hill. Odeon Kensington. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Screen on the Hill. Local: Greenwich Cinema, Richmond Odeon Studio

LITTLE VOICE (151

Holed up in her bedroom, timid North Country sparrow LV (Jane Horrocks) perfects strident Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations Bracing black comedy, Horrocks' vocal pyrotechnics, plus a marvellously weighted turn from Michael Caine push it through to the final curtain, West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Odean Kensington, Odean Spiss Cottage, Odean West End. Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road. And local cinemas

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG)

is gaudy swashbuckler gallops full-speed Through 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do gooder. West End: Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

MEET JOE BLACK (12)

Martin Brest's underdeveloped rehaul of Death Takes a Holiday stars Brad Pitt as the aquiline Grim Reaper, who get chaperoned around the everyday delights of Planet Earth by Anthony Hopkins' dying billionaire. West End: Empire Leicester Square. Local: Berleyheath Cineworld, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham Cineworld the Movies, Streatham ABC

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Warner Village West End. Local: Feltham Cineworld the Movies, Warner Village Finchley Road, Richmond Odeon Studio, UCI Surrey Quays

See The Independent Recommends, above, West End: ABC Panton Street, Curzon Soho. Local: Richmond Odeon Studio

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12)

Essectially a sibling soap-opera with a dash of mumbo-jumbo, Practical Magic sees Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman cast as two mismatched sisters raised from a line of witches and hexing any unlucky man who swings into their orbit. With Dianne Wiest and Aidan Quinn. West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadera, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (U)

In planning his cartoon life of Moses, DreamWorks honcho Jeffrey Katzenberg envisaged it "painted by Claude Mooet and photographed by David Lean". The end result ends up looking more like The Ten Commandments by way of Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

**RUSH HOUR (15)** 

Rush Hour marries Jackie Chan with an LA backdrop, a jobbing Hollywood director and a wise-cracking black comic in Chris Tucker's huckstering LAPD man. It's a hit-and-miss-affair. West End: Odeon Marble Arch, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Croydon Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Harrow Warner Village, Staples Corner Virgin, Streatham Odean, UCI Surrey Quays, Wimbledon Odean. Repertory: National Film Theatre

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road. Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Toton, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

STEPMOM (12)

This sugar-glazed, oven-ready affair casts an out-of-sorts Susan Sarandon as a middle-aged matriarch squabbling over her offspring with the new model mom (Julia Roberts) that hubby Ed Harris has hooked up with. The first mom gets poorly and laughter turns to tears (or at least weary resignation). West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. And local cinemas

TWO GIRLS AND A GUY (18)

James Toback's taut drama probes aggressively at the psychological make-up of its three central characters. Heather Graham and Natasha Gregson Warner are the duped girlfriends of Robert Downey Jr's love-rat prima donna, and Two Girls and a Guy gives them plenty of room to move and breathe, turning the resulting yarn into a pungent acting showcase. West End: Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket. Local: Warner Village Finchley Road

**VERY BAD THINGS (18)** 

A bunch of stag-weekenders accidentally kill a Las legas whore, intentionally murder the security guard who rumbles the crime, and then start coming apart at the seams on their arrival home. Peter Berg's debut serves up swaggering gross-out comedy in a Loaded-magazine style. With Cameroo Diaz and Christian Slater. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

#### THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Shakespeare in Love (15) This eojoyable romp suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Juliet. Joseph Fiennes and Gwyneth Paltrow head a mulo-star cast.

Living Out Loud (15) Holly Hunter (right) plays a Manhattan woman who, left by her husband, befriends the elevator operator in her building Writer Richard LaGravenese handles everything with affectionate restraint.

A Bug's Life (U)

Less sophisticated and more child-friendly than Antz, this animated feature spins another good yarn about an ant colony and its battle to survive. Kevin Spacey provides the voice of the chief grasshopper.

The Opposite of Sex (18) Christina Ricci plays 16-year-old bitch-on-wheels Dedee, who causes havoc when she moves in with her half-brother (Martin Donovan).

Darreo Arooofsky's debut, filmed in sooty blackand-white, tells the story of a genius mathematician. This stylish indie movie fearlessly combines Wall Street, Jewish mysticism and nightmarish headaches.

ANTHONY OUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

The Street of Crocodiles (Queen's Theatre)

Triumphant revival of Theatre de Complicite's surreal and searing plunge into the imagination of Polish-Jewish writer Bruno Schulz. To 20 Feb

(Lyttelton, National Theatre) Frances de la Tour is deliciously amusing as the cradle-snatching widow in Ostrovsky's comedy about tyrants and thespians. In rep

The Winter's Tale (RSC, Stratford) An amazingly rich and complex performance from Antony Sher in Gregory Doran's Romanovstyle production. In rep to 4 Mar-

Oklahoma! (Lyceum Theatre) Widely regarded as the best ever, Trevor Nunn's glorious production (right) of the Rogers and Hammerstein

classic fully deserves its West

End transfer. To 26 Jun

Martin Guerre (West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds) It's third time lucky for this much-rewritten musical. In Conall Morrisoo's starkly involving production, it finally emerges as a tighter, more magnificent show. To 13 Feb

PAUL TAYLOR

#### THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the smartest, most intense portraiture ever. Women; exquisite melanges of flesh and fabric. dreams of sex and money. Images of triumphant bourgeois heary. To 25.4pr

Patrick Caulfield (Hayward Gallery) The modern object-world made luminous, This survey of nearly 50 years' work offers his full range - notably, those hold laconic outlines, blocked in with translucent colour. To 11 Are

Andreas Gursky (Serpentine Gallery)

Photographs 1994-98 (right): widevision, high-finish, micro-detailed vistas of our world - images filled with

can see. To 7 Mar Disasters of War

more than the eve

(Wolverhampton Art Gallery) "I saw this" - three ages of European war through the etchings of Jacques Callot, Goya and Otto Dix. Visions from the blackest of times, To 20 Mar

Peter Doig & Udomsak Krisanamis (Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh) Doig's sizzling landscapes alternate with Krisanamis' collages of cultural detritus. To 27 Mar

CINEMA WEST END

ABC PANTON STREET 

ABC PICCADILLY

(0171-287 4322 [from 1pm] & Piccadilly Circus Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm There's Something About Mary 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 6.00pm, 8.25pm 3.30pm, 6.00pm, 8.25pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) S Leicester Square Class Trip 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 8.30pm Texas Chainsaw Massace 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 8.55pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE 

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham Court Road A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.00pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Shakespeare in Love 3.45pm, 6.30pm,

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) ⊕ Barbican Hilary and Jackie 6pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 6pm, 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) & Sloane Square Hilary and Jackie 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323 O/BR Clapham nctionBulworth 9pm Hideous Love 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) & Green Park Hilary and Jackie 1pm, 3,30pm, 6pm, 8,40pm

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Comer/Knightsbridge Hideous Corner/Knightsbridge His Kinky 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

**CURZON SOHO** (0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm) @ Leicester Square/fottenham Court Road Buhworth 3.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Hideous Kinky 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Hillary and Jackie 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm x (Pi) 1.15pm, 5.30pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) O Leicester Square Meet Joe Stack 12noon, 3,40pm, 7,20pm The Prince of Egypt 3,15pm, 6pm, 8,15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 5,50pm, 8,45pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) © Noting Hill (0171-727 4043) © Noting Hill Gate Hilary and Jackie 4.20pm, 8.50pm Little Voice 2.20pm, 6.50pm

METRO (0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly Circus Dobermann 2pm, 4,15pm, 6,30pm, 8,45pm Pecker 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET {0171-727 6705| © Notting Hill Gate Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm ODEON CAMDEN TOWN

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN (08705-050007] & Canden Town (08705-050007] & Canden Town A Bug's Life 12noon, 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm. 9.05pm Lictle Volce 11.50am, 2pm, 4.15pm, 8.35pm, 8.45pm Pecker 12.50pm, 2.45pm, 4.45pm, 6.55pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare In Love 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.45pm, 8.35pm Stepnom 12.20pm, 6.30pm Very Bad Things 3.45pm, 9pm

ODEON KENSINGTON ODEON KENSINGTON
(08705-050007) — High Street
(08705-050007) — High Street
(Rensington A Bug's Life 11.45am.
2.15pm. - 4.45pm. 7.15pm.
9.45pm Bulworth 1.15pm.
4.45pm. 9.30pm Hilary and
Jackie 3.40pm. 6.30pm Little
Voice 1.50pm. 4.25pm. 7pm.
9.35pm Practical Magic 1pm.
9.20pm Shakespeare in Love
12.10pm. 3.10pm. 6.10pm.
9.10pm Stepmom 12.25pm.
3.25pm. 6.25pm. 9.25pm. 12.10pm, 5.10pm, 9.10pm Stepmom 3.25pm, 6.25pm 9.25pm

**ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE** (08705-050007) & Lekester Square A Bug's 11fe 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm ODEON MARBLE ARCH

ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(08705-050007] & Marble Arch A
Bug's Life 2.05pm. 4.25pm.
6.45pm, 9.05pm Enemy of the
State 12.20pm. 3.10pm. 6.05pm.
9pm Practical Magic 1.15pm.
6.25pm Shakespeare in Love
12.35pm. 3.25pm. 6.15pm.
9.15pm The Siege 3.35pm.
8.55pm Stepmom 12.30pm.
3.20pm. 6.10pm. 8.55pm

ODEON MEZZANINE ODEON MEZZANINE (08705-050007) & Leicester Square Elizabeth 12.35pm, 3.05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smolding Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Mask of Zorro 2.35pm, 5.25pm, 8.15pm The Slege 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm There's Something About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (08705-050007) & Swiss Cortage (08705-050007] & Swiss Cottage A Bug's Life 12,15pm, 2,25pm, 4,35pm, 6,45pm, 9pm Hideous Klnky 1.15pm, 3,55pm, 6,15pm, 8,45pm Hilary and Jackie 12,20pm, 3pm, 5,35pm, 8,15pm Little Voice 1,45pm, 4pm, 6,20pm, 8,50pm Shakespeare In Love 12,20pm, 3,05pm, 5,50pm, 8,35pm 8.35pm Scepmon 12.10pm, 2.45pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm

**COECN WEST END** (08705-050007) & Square Little Voice Leicester 1.55pm, 8.55pm 6.20pm, 12.10pm, 4.10pm. 5.40pm. 8.30pm PEPSI IMAX CINEWA

(0171-494 4153) ♦ Piccadilly Circus Everest 9.05pm L5 (IMAX) 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 7pm T-Resc Back 3.40pm, 5,45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm PLAZA

(0990-888990) & Piccadilly Circus Babe: Pig in the City 12.40pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.30pm 5a7 free: insurrector 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

(0171-837 8402) & Russell Square The Apple (Sib) 1pm, 2.55pm, 4.50pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm Hideous Kinky 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm RITZY CINEMA

RITZY CINEMA
(0171-733 2229) BR/O- Brixton
The Flower of My Secret 2.10pm
Hideous Kinky 2.45pm, 4.50pm,
7.05pm, 8.15pm How Stella Got
Her Groove Back 4.10pm,
6.40pm, 9.10pm Little Voice
3pm, 5.15pm, 7.25pm, 8.30pm
The Opposite of Sex 2.20pm,
4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm (+ Short:
Horseshoel Shakespeare in Love
2pm, 4.25pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

(0171-935 2772) O Baker Street Hideous Kinky 2.35pm, 4.40pm, 6.55pm, 9.10pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 6.25pm, 9pm SCREEN ON THE GREEN

(0171-226 3520) & Highbury & Islington Shakespeare in Love 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9pm SCREEN ON THE HILL

(0171-435 3366) ⊕ Belsize Park Hilary and Jackie 3.10pm, 6.40pm, 8.10pm UCI WHITELEYS

UCI WHITELEYS
(0870 60 34567) & Queensway A
Bug's Life 1.30pm, 2.10pm, 4pm,
4.40pm, 6.30pm, 7.10pm,
8.50pm Bulworth 4.10pm, 9pm
Hideous Kinky 1.20pm, 3.40pm,
6.20pm, 8.40pm Little Volce
2pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm The
Opposite of Sex 1.40pm, 4.20pm,
7pm, 9.20pm The Parest Trap
2.25pm Shakespeare in Love
12.35pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm,
9.10pm Scepmon 2.50pm,
5.50pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things
5.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) & Sloane Square/South Kensington A Bug's Life 12:30pm, 2:45pm, 5pm, 7:15pm, 9:30pm Bulworth 1pm; 3:20pm, 6pm, 9:15pm Stepmom 12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9pm Very Bad Things 1:30pm, 4pm, 6:30pm, 8:45pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD
(0870-907 0711] ⊕ South
Kersington Hideous Kinky
12.10pm. 2.30pm. 4.40pm.
6.50pm. 8.10pm Little Voice
12.40pm. 3pm. 5.10pm. 7.20pm.
9.40pm The Opposite of Sex
12.30pm, 2.50pm, 5pm. 7.10pm.
9.30pm Practical Magic 1.40pm.
4nm. 6.30pm. 9.20pm. 4pm. 6.30pm. 9.20pm, Shakespeare In Love 12.30pm, 3.30pm. 6pm, 8.50pm Two Girls and A Guy 1.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.40pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 0712) & Piccadilly Circus Bulworth 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm Pecker 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Two Girls and a Guy 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.55pm **YIRGIN TROCADERO** 

VIRGIN TROCADERO
(0870-907 0716) 
Piccatilly
Circus Enemy of the State
12ncon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm
How Scella Got Her Groove Back
12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm
Living Out Loud 1pm, 3.20pm,
6pm, 8.20pm Practical Magk
12ncon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm,
6.50pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in
Love 12ncon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm,
8.20pm Still Crazy 12.20pm,
8.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.20pm
Very Bad Things 12ncon, 2.10pm,
4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square Bulworth 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Living Out Loud 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm The Mask of Zorro 12,30pm, 3.20pm The Opposite of Ser 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm, A. Perfect, Murder 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm (not fue) Practical Magic 12,20pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm (+ Short Eight) Rush Hour 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 9.20pm Very Bad Things 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm What Dreams May Come 6.15pm, 8.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm.

> **CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) & Park Royal A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2pm, 2.30pm, 4.20pm, 4.50pm, 6.30pm, 7.10pm, 8.40pm, 9.35pm Enermy Of the State 1.30pm, 1.10pm, 7pm, 9.50pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 8.55pm Little Voke 4.30pm, 9.10pm The Parent Tran 2.20pm, 9.10pm The Parent Trap 2,20pm, 5.05pm Practical Magic 2.10pm, 6.50pm Shakespeare in Love 1 pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm The Siege 7.40pm, 10.10pm Stepanom 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 2.30pm, 4.50pm.

BARNET ODEON (08705 050007) & High Barnet A Bug's Life 2.20pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 8.05pm Little Voice 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm Practical Magic 1pm, 6.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.45pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Stepmom 1pm, 3.30pm. 6pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 3.30pm, 9pm

BECKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Becken-ham Junction A Bug's Life 2.10pm, 4.20pm 6.30pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm Shalespeare in Love 2pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm

STUDIO (0181-663 0103) Twen-

BEXLEYHEATH
CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR:
Bedeyheath A Bug's Life 12noon,
1pm. 2pm. 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm,
7pm, 8pm, 9pm Enerny of the State
1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm
Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate 4pm Lktle Vokee 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 5pm,
7.15pm, 9.30pm The Mask of Zorro 1pm, 6.30pm Meet Joe Black
12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm Practical Magic 12.35pm, 2.50pm,
5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Shakespeare In Love 1pm, 3.45pm,
6.30pm, 8.20pm The Slege 10pm
Stepmom 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.45pm,
9.35pm Very Bad Things 4pm,
9.50pm BEXLEYHEATH

BROMLEY
ODEON (08705 050007) BR:
Bromley North/Bromley South A
Bug's Life 12noon, 2.15pm.
4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Little Voice
2.25pm, 4.40pm. 6.50pm, 9.05pm
Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm,
3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Stepmom
12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Bulworth 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030)

BR: West/East Croydon Bulwo 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Savi Private Ryan 1.15pm FAIRFIELD HALLS (0181-688 9281] BR: East Croydon Enemy of

the State 7.45pm SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR; West Croydon A Bug's Life 5.40pm. 8pm Bulworth 5.30pm, 8.30pm Hum Aapke Dii Mein Rehte Hain

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) 8R: East Croydon A Bug's Life 2,30pm, 3.40pm, 4.50pm, 6.10pm, 7.10pm. 8.30pm, 9.30pm Enemy of the State 3.50pm, 9.40pm Little Volce 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Practical Magic 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 3,10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Stepmom 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Very Bad Things 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm

DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) Degenham Heathway A Bug's Life 1.45pm. 3pm. 4pm. 5.10pm. 6.30pm. 7.30pm. 8.40pm. 9.40pm Enemy of the 5tate 3.30pm. 6.15pm. 9.10pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 1.30pm. 4.10pm. 6.45pm. 9.30pm Lictle Voice 2pm. 4.30pm. 7.15pm. 9.20pm Practical Magic 1.50pm. 4.15pm. 6.40pm. 9pm Shakespeare in Love 3.20pm. 6.10pm. 8.50pm.

in Love 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Stepmom 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm EALING WIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/& Ealing Broadway A Bug's Lire 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm Stepmom 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm EDGMARE BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) &

Edgware Aa Ab Laut Chalen phone for times Bade Dilwala phone for times A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 5.45pm, 7.35pm Kuch Ruch Hora Hai phone for times Very Bad Things 5.20pm, 8.20pm Za-

kinn phone for times LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) & Tottenham Hale AA AB Laut Chalain 8.15pm A Bug's Life 2.10pm, 3.40pm, 4.30pm, 6pm. 6.50pm, 8.20pm, 9pm Bulworth 6.30pm Enemy of the State 4.10pm, 9.50pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 1.55pm. 6.40pm, 9.30pm Little Voice 2.45pm, 5pm 9.30pm Little Voice 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.20pm Living Out Loud 4.45pm, 7.30pm, 10pm Meet Joe Black 4.20pm, 8pm The Parent Trap 2.30pm Practical Magic 3.05pm, 5.45pm, 8.50pm Shakespeare in Love 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm The Siege 5.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4pm Stepmonn 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Mery Bad Trings 7pm, 9.40pm Very Bad Things

FELTHAM

ELEPHANT & CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4968) & Elephant & Castle A Bug's Life 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Enemy of the State 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Practical Magic 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-

PELTHAM
CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham AA AB Laut Chalain 11,45am, 3.30pm, 7.15pm A Bug's Life 11am, 12noon, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, 7pm, 9pm Enemy of the State 11.20am, 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 1.30pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Hum Aapke Halm Koun., 11.15am, 2.45pm, 6.20pm, 8.05pm, 8.45pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hal 11.15am, 2.45pm, 6.15pm Little Voice 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.05pm, 9.15pm Meet Joe Black 1.05pm, 4.30pm, 8pm The Opposite of Sex 11.55am, 2.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm Practical Magic 11.40am, 2.10pm, 4.35pm, 6.5pm, 8.25pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm The Siege 9.50pm Stepmom 11.15am, 1.45pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Very Bad Things 7.50pm, 10pm Zakhm 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.15pm

**NORTH FINCHLEY** 

HINCHLEY ROAD
WARNER VILLAGE (0171-504
3110) & Finchley Road A Bug's Life
3,40pm, 6pm, 8,15pm, 10,30pm
Bulworth 5.05pm, 9.50pm Enemy
of the State 4,10pm, 9.40pm Little Voice 1.50pm, 7pm The Opposite of Sex 2.10pm, 4,40pm,
7.10pm, 9.30pm Practical Magic
2pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 10pm
Shakespeare in Love 12,40pm,
3,20pm, 6,15pm, 9.10pm Stepmont
12,30pm, 3,10pm, 5,50pm, 8,40pm
Two Girls And A Guy 12,50pm,
2,50pm, 7,30pm Very Bad Things
1,30pm, 4pm, 6,30pm, 8,50pm FINCHLEY ROAD

GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) & Golders Green Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm

Si .....

TOM LUSBOCK

CINEMA (0181-293 0101) 8R: Greenwich A Bug's Life 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Hilary And Jack-le 4.55pm Little Voice 7.10pm, 9.10pm

HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-9020413) + Belsize Park A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8,40pm Little Voice 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Shake-speare in Love 2,35pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-9070718) & Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 6.20pm, 6.20pm. 8.30pm Little Volce 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8,20pm The Prince of Egypt 1,30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Stepmon 12 40pm 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

HARROW SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303)

Harrow-on-the-Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone Fire 7pm Hum Aapke Hain Koun..! 1.30pm. 5pm, 8.45pm Hu To Tu 8.45pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) O'Hanow on the Hill A Bug's Life 11,10am, 1 15pm, 1.40pm, 3 35pm, 4.10pm, 6pm, 6 40pm, 8.30pm, 9.10pm Enemy of the State 12,15pm, 3.05pm, 9.50pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 2.45pm, Little Voice 12.35pm, 2.45pm, 5.05pm, 7.25pm, 9.40pm Practical Maele 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 6.50pm Magic 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9,20pm Shakespeare in Love 1,10pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm 5tepmom 12noon, 2.50pm,

5.40pm, 8.20pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 5pm HOLLOWAY ODEON (08705 050007) & Hol-Obeche (08/05 030007) & Holloway Road/Archway A Bug's Life 12.05pm. 1.05pm. 2.20pm. 3.25pm. 4.35pm. 5.45pm. 6.50pm, 8.05pm. 8.05pm Enemy of The State 1.35pm 4.05pm. 6.30pm, 8.50pm How Stella Got Her 67.50pm How Stella Got Per Groove Back 12pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Little Voice 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm Practical Magic 2.20pm, 6.50pm Shakespeare in Love 12.20pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Stepmom

12,20pm, 3,05pm, 5,50pm, 8,35pm Very Bad Things 4,30pm, 9pm **(LFORO** ODEON (08705 050007) @ Gants Hill A Bug's Life 2pm, 4,20pm, 6,40pm, 8,50pm Little Voice 1,30pm, 3,50pm, 6,10pm, 8,40pm Practical Magic 1.55pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, Shakespeare In Love 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Stepmom 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Very Bad Things 8.45pm

KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston A Bug's Life 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 2,10pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007] & High-gate A Bug's Life 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.05pm Shakespeare in Love 7pm, 9.05pm Shakespeare in Love 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Stepmom 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm

PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye A Bug's Life 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Enemy of the State 6.30pm, 9.05pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Little Voice 4.35pm Living Out Loud 4.50pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm The Mask of Zorro 4,30pm The Parent Trap 2.10pm Practical Magic 2.15pm, 7.15pm The Prince of Egypt 2.45pm Shakespeare In Love 3.35pm, 6.15pm, 8.55pm The Siege 9.15pm

ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley A Bug's Life 6pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 6.10pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm

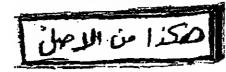
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PUTNEY ABC (0870 9020401) BR: Putney/Putney Bridge Little Worke 1,15pm, 3,45pm, 6,15pm, 8,35pm Shake-speare in Love 2,15pm, 5,15pm, 9,15pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR/G-Richmond A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Little Voice 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9:20pm Shakespeare In Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007)
BR/9- Richmond Hilary And Jackte 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm
The Opposte of Sex 2.20pm,
7.10pm s (PI) 4.30pm, 9.40pm
Practical Magic 2pm. 7pm Stepmon 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Very
Bad Things 4.40pm, 9.30pm



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ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419] BR: Romford A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 8.20pm, 8.40pm Practical Magic 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Very Bad Things 2.25pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007] BR: Romford A Bug's Life 12noon. 1.20pm. 2.20pm. 3.45pm. 4.45pm. 6pm. 7pm, 8.15pm. 9pm Enemy of the State 12.45pm. 6.10pm Little Voice 1.30pm. 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Living Out Loud 2pm, 8.50pm Living Out Loud 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Practical Magic 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm hakespeare in Love 12.20pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.10pm Stepmom 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Very Bad Things 3.45pm, 8.55pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup A Bug's Life 6.15pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in Love 5.15pm, 8.15pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Crick-Jacob March (0870-9070717) BR: Crick-lewood A Bug's Life 1pm, 2.20pm, 3.30pm, 4.40pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm Enemy of the State 9.10pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 3pm, 6pm, 8.45pm The Parent Trap 12.15pm Practical Mage 1.30pm. 4.15pm. 6.45pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm. 5.50pm, 8.50pm Stepmom 1pm. 3.45pm, 6.30pm. 9.15pm Very Bad Things 9.15pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Living Out Loud 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Meet Joe Black 7.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.25pm. 5.35pm, 8.25pm Star Trek: Insurrection 2.15pm, 4.50pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Streatham Hill/O Brixton/Clapham Common A Bug's Life 12.10pm. 2.30pm, 4.50pm. 7pm. 9pm Enemy of The State 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm How Shalls Cart 5.40pm, 8.25pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Little Voice 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm Stepmom 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Very Bad Things 8,20pm

STRATFORD STRATFORD
NEW STRATFORD PICTURE
HOUSE (0181-555 3366] BR/9
5tratford East A Bug's Life 2.40pm.
4.50pm, 7pm. 9.10pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 1pm.
3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Shake-speare in Love 1.10pm. 3.40pm,
6.15pm, 8.50pm Stepmom
1.05pm, 3.50pm, 8.30pm Very
Bad Things 6.30pm Bad Things 6,30pm

**SURREY QUAYS** UCI (0990 888990) © Surrey Cuays Antz 1.50pm Babe; Pig In The City 2pm A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 2.10pm, 3.40pm, 4.30pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.20pm Enemy of the State 0.20pm Mideous Wielers 1.55pm 9.20pm Hideous Kinky 1.45pm, 4.45pm. 7.15pm, 9.45pm How Stella Got Her Groove Back 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm Little Voice 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.15pm The Oppo-site of Sex 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm The Parent Trap 2.20pm The Prince of Egypt 1.30pm shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Stepmom 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Very Bad Things 5pm, 7.30pm,

SUTTON SUTTON
UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/⊕ Morden A Bug's Life
4.45pm, 6pm, 7pm, 8.30pm Enemy of the State 9.30pm Little Voice
2.45pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.15pm
Practical Magic 7.10pm Saving Private Ryan 4.30pm Shakespeare in
Love 30m, 5.45pm, 8.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4.30pm Step-mom 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Very Bad Things 9.45pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) + Turnpike Lane A Bug's Life 4pm. 6.30pm. 8.40pm Little Voice 4.15pm. 6.25pm. 8.45pm Very lad Things 3.55pm, 6.15pm.

ODEON (08705 050007) & Usbridge A Bug's Life 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Stepmon; 1.40pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

WALTHAMSTOW slow Central A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm Very Bad Things 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm

WALTON ON THAMES THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR Walton on Thames Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 6pm, 9.35pm Stepmom 2.50pm. S 35pm Stepmom 5 45pm, 8.15pm

CORONET (0181-850 33511 BR: ham A Bug's Life 4pm, 6.30pm, Opm Shakespeare in Love Eltham A Bu 2 30pm, 6pm, 8 30pm

BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) + Willesden Green A Bug's Life 4 45pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Zakhm 1pm

ODEON (08705 050007] BR.+ Wimbledon & South Wimbledon A Bug's Life 1 45pm, 4.10pm 6 30pm, 8.50pm Little Voice 2pm. 4 15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Practi-cal Magic 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Shakespeare in 12.20pm, 2.55pm, 5.35pm, pm Stepmom 2.30pm, 5 35pm. 8.25pm WOODFORD

ABC (0181-989 3463) ← South Woodlord A Bug's Life 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Little Voice Shakespeare in Love 2.45pm.

CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR-Woolwith Arserial A Bug's Life 4pm, 6 30pm, 8.40pm Very Bad

NEW CURZON (0181-347 6664) & Turnoske Lane AA AB Laut Chalain

CINEMA

CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place. 5W7 (0171-838 2144 2146) A Nos Amours (NC) 6,30pm Betty (15)

GOETHE INSTITUTE Princes Gale, SW7 (0171-411 3400) Rehearsing the Rite (Probe Sacre]/Waltzes

ICA The Mail, SW1 (0171-930 3647) A Scene at the Sea (NC) 5pm, 7pm, 9pm The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp (U) 5 30pm. 9.15pm

THE LUX CINEMA Hoxton Square, N1 (0171-684 0201) Modulations

NFT South Bank. SEI 0171-928 3232 My Name is Joe (15) 2,30pm, 6,30pm Women In New York (Frauen in New York): Fasst (NC) 6.15pm Rounders (15) 7.30pm Rush Hour (15) 8.40pm Berlin Alexanderplatz Episode

PHOENIX CINEMA High Road. N2 (0181-444 6789) Hideous Kinky (1S) 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm,

WC2 (0171-437 8181) Hana-Bi (18) 1.15pm Brassed Off (15) 6.30pm The Full Monty (15] 9pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road,

W6 (0171-420 0100) Out of the Past (PG) 6.45pm + Rebecca WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) Year of the Horse (15)

BRIGHTON **DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503)** Two Girls and a Guy (18) 2.30pm, 6.45pm Hideous Kinky (15)

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Hideous Kinky (15) 6pm, 8.30pm Pecker (18) 6.05pm, 8.20pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) The Opposite of Sex (18) 1pm Hideous Kinky (15] 3pm, 9.15pm Nosferatu (1921 Version) (PG) 5pm Classe de Neige (Class Trip)

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Metallica Untitled (NC) 2,30pm, 7,30pm Pecker (18)

LEICESTER PHOENIX ARTS (0116-255 4854) Left Luggage (PG) 6.15pm THE BOYS (18) 8.30pm

NORWICH CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Little Voice (15] 2.30pm, 5.45pm Fun-ny Games (18] 8.15pm

#### **CINEMA** COUNTRYWIDE

ABC WHITELADIES ROAD (0117-973 3640): A Bug's Life (U): The Prince of Egypt (U): Shakespeare in Love (15): Star Trek: Insurrec-tion (PG): Very Bad Things (18) ARNOLFINI (0117-929 9191]; The

Mighty (PG): π (Pf) (15)

CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01275-831099); The Adventures of Pinoc-chio (U); Aniz (PG); Babe: Pig In the City (U); A Bug's Life (U); Bul-worth (18): Flizabeth (15); Enemy of the State (15); Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain (U); Aa Ab Laut Chalen (PG): Little Voice (15): The Mask of Zorro (PG]: Meet Joe The Mask of Zorro (PG): Meet Joe Black (12); Mrs Doubtfare (PG); The Parent Trap (PG): Practical Magic (12); The Prince of Egypt (U): Psy-cho (15); Rush Hour (15); Shake-speare in Love (15); The Siege (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Stepmom (12): Very Bad Things

Life (U); Dr Dollttle (PG): Ene of the State (15); Mulan (U): The Parent Trap (PG): Practical Magic

ORPHEUS HENLEAZE (0117-962 1644); A Bug's Life (U); Elizabeth (15); Little Voice (15); The Parent Trap (PG); The Prince of Egypt

SHOWCASE (0117-9723800); Antz (PG): A Bug's Life (U): Enemy of the State (15): Hideous Kinky (15): How Stella Got Her Groove Back (15): Little Voice (15); Living Out Loud (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Meet Joe Black (12); The Opposite of Sex (18): The Parent Trap (PG); Practi-cal Magic (12]: The Prince of Egypt (U); Shakespeare in Love (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Stepmon

(12); Very Bad Things (18)

WARNER VILLAGE (0117-950 O222]; Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Blade (18); A Bug's Life (U): Enemy of the State (15); How Stella Got Her Groove Back (15); Little Voice (15); The Mask of Zorro (PGI: Meet Joe Black (12): Mu ro [PG]; Meet Joe Black (12]; Mu-lan (U]; The Parent Trap (PG); Practical Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U]: Rush Hour (15): Saving Private Ryan (15): Shakespeare in Love (15); The Slege (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Stepmom (12): Meet Rad Thiogr. (18) (121; Very Bad Things (18)

PORTSMOUTH ABC (01705-823538): Antz (PG): Bulworth (18): Meet Joe Black (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Shakespeare in Love (15): Star Trek: insurrection (PG): Two Girls And A Guy (18)

ODEON (08705-050007): A Bug's Life (U): Dr Dollttle (PG): Enemy of the State (15): George of the Jungle |U|: Mulan (U): The Parent Trap (PG): Practical Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Small Soldiers (PG): Stepmom (12): Very Bad Thines (18)

UCI 6 (0990-888990); Antz [PG]; Sabe: Pig in the City (U): A Bug's Life (U): Enemy of the State (15]; Little Voice (15): The Parent Trap (PG): Practical Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Saving Private Ryan (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Stepmom (12): Very Bad Things

READING ABC (0870-9020417): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U); Meet Joe Black (12): Shakespeare in Love (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG):

Very Bad Things (18)

FILM THEATRE (0118-986 8497): Henry Fool (18); Scream 2 (18); Velvet Goldmine (18)

ODEON (08705-050007): A Bug's Ufe (U): Dr Dolittle (PG): Enemy of the State (15): Mulan (U): The Par-ent Trap (PG): Practical Magic (12): Small Soldiers (PG): Stepmom (12)

SHOWCASE (0118-974 7711); A Bug's Life (U); Enemy of the State (15); Hideous Kinky (15); How Stella Got Her Groove Back 15): Little Voice (15); Living Out Loud (15): Meet Joe Black (12): The Opposite of Sex (18); Practical Magic (12]: The Prince of Egypt (U): Shakespeare in Love (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Stepmom (12): Very Bad Things (18)

#### THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for to day: times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. 
— Seats at all prices I — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matinees — (1]: Sun, (3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Fe-licity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Gleigud Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) ⊕ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. (S)(7(3pm. £19.50-£27.50 £12.50-£17.50 (restricted views). 130 mins.

 AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acimed drama about the life of Mozart, Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000] BR/@ Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4)[7) 2.30pm, £7.50-£30, 180 mins.

ANNIE Rags to riches story of the optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SWI (0171-834 1317) BR/— Victoria. Tue-Sat 7.30pm. (4))7) 2.30pm. (1) 4pm. £7.50-£32.50. 165 mins.

a ART Tom Mannion, Danny Webb, Gary Olsen in Vasmina Reza's com-edy about art and friendship. Wyn-dham's Theatre Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 0171-867 11111 & Leic Sq. Tue-Sat School, 1612 (000) (2011) 5 (000) 8.00pm, (4) 3.00pm, [7](1) 5.00pm, £9.50-£27.50, 90 mins.

 BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Levish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Theatre Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. (4](7) 2.30pm, £18.50-£35. 150 mins.

• BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama about twins who are separated at birth Phoenix Theatre Charing Cross Road, WCZ (0171-369 1733) & Leic So/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-5at 7.45pm, )5) 3.00pm. (7) 4.00pm. £11.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

● BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Theatre Aldwych. WC2 (0171-930 8800) ← Covent Garden/Charing X. Rie-Thu 8.00pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5.00pm & 8.30pm. mats [1] 4pm, £10-£27, half price Friday matinees, 160

a CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Theatre Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 0171-404 4079) ← Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (3)[7( 3.00pm, £12.50-£35, 165 mins.

CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broad-way musical about two murderous women and their nightclub act. Adel-phi Theatre Malden Lane, WCQ (0171-344 0055) & Charing X. Mon-Sai 8pm, [4][7] 3pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee). 130 mins.

• THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forward through 37 plays, Criterion Theatre Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) & Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8.00pm, [5] 3.00pm, (7] 5.00pm, (1) 4.00pm, £6-£25. 120 mlss.

COPENHAGEN New drama from of the atom. Duchess Theatre Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 0171-344 4444) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £15-£30. 145 mins.

DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little stars in this witty and wise comedy about the sezes. Apol-lo Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) ◆ Picc Circ. Mon-Fri 8pm, 5at 6pm & 8.45pm, E10-£25, concs available.

DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. London Apollo Harnmersmith Queen Caroline Street. W6 (0171-416 6022) & Harnmersmith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4)[7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins.

 GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film featuring a range of familiar hits. Cambridge Theatre Eartham 5treet, WC2 (0171-494 5080) ◆ Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. (4)(7) 3.00pm, £10-£30.

 AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christo of Nide's comedy. Lyric Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue. WI (0171-494 5045) © Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£29.50, 165 mins

AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Theatre Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5.00pm, £12-£29.50.

O INTO THE WOODS Sondheim and Lapine's acclaimed musical based on fairy tales. Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WCZ (0171-369 17321 ← Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4)[7) 2.30pm, £15-£27.50.

) KAFKA'S DKK Alan Bennett's drama about a man obsessed with the Czech writer stars Eric Syk Julia Mackenzie. Piccadilly Theetre Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. In rep, today 3pm & 6pm, ends 27 Feb, £12-£30, 120

THE KISSING DANCE OR SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER Burlesque musical comedy. Lyric Hemmer-smith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) ⊕ Hammersmith. Tonight 7.30pm, £10-£15, concs £5-£7.50.

I LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EU-NUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halliwell's drama. Cornedy Theatre Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) ← Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm. )5)[7] 3pm, £7-£27.50.

) THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman and Julia Sawaina star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's fimeral. Vaudeville Theatre Strand. WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/© Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5)[7] 3pm. E8-E27.50.

I LES MISERABLES Musical tion of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Theatre Shafteshurv Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, 15)[7] 2.30pm, £7-£35. 195 mins.

### DMISS SAIGON Musical which re-sets the Middom Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, W.Q (0171-

494 5060) @ Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.4Spm. (4)(7] 3.00pm. £5.75-£35. 165 mins. • THE MOUSETRAP Agatha

Christie's whodumit. St. Martin's Theatre West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] S.00pm, £10-£24.50, 135 mins, DOKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman stars in the National's acclaimed pro-duction of Rodgers and Hammerstein's cowboy versus farmhand musical Lyceum Theatre Welling-ton Street, WC2 (0870-606 3446)

Onaring X/Embankment, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. (4)[7] 2.30pm. £10-£35. O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical Her Majesty's Theetre Haymarket, SWI (0171-494 5400/cc 0171-344 4444] & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4))7) 3.00pm, £10-£35. 150 mins.

RENT Musical inspired by La Bohame and set in modern day New York, Shaftesbury Theatre Shaftes-bury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221] O Holborn, Mon-Sar 7,30pm, |4|77| 3pm, F12 50-532 50, 160 mins 3pm. £12.50-£32.50. 160 mins.

PRICHARD IN Robert Lindsay stars as the historical villain. Savoy The-atre 5trand. WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 0171-836 0479) ◆ Char-Ing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, )7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE
OULVIER Peter Pan Stephen Oliver's music accompanies the tale of
the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up,
with Michael Bryant as the Storyteller in rep, tonight 7,15pm, ends

● LYTTELTON: The Forest Alan Ay-chbourn's new version of Ostrovsky's black social satire stars Frances de la Touz in rep, conight 7,30pm.

● COTTESLOE: The Riot Nick Darke's drama from Kneehigh The-atre. In rep. tonight 7.30pm. Ofivi-er & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£17. NT2000: £4. concs £3. 

ROYAL SHARESPEARE COMPANY

THE BARBICAN: Measure For
Measure Stephen Boner stars in
Shakespeare's examination of justice. In rep, today 1.45pm & 7.15pm.

● THE PIT: Bad Weather Robert Holman's examination of the break-down in family relationships. In rep. today 2pm & 7.15pm. Barbican Theatre; £5-£26. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Bartokan Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) + Barbican. THE YOUNG VIC: Talk Of The City Stephen Polishof's drama explores

media control in the early days of TV and radio. In rep. today 2pm & 7pm, Young Vic: £5-£26. The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). BR/+ Waterloo. O SATURDAY NIGHT PEVER HIS 1970s musical featuring legendary songs and three new tracks by the Bee Gees and starring Atlam Garcia.
London Palladium Argyli Street, WI
(0171-494 5020) O Oxford Circ.
Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4][7] 2.30pm,
£10-£32.50. 135 mins.

**STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew** Lloyd Webber's bi-tech roller-musical Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/+ Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3)[7] 3.00pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

THE STREET OF CROCODILES Bruno Scultz's short stories provide the inspiration for Theatre de Comdrama, Queen's Theatre Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040/cc 0171-344 4444) → Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 8pm, [7] 3pm, [1) 5pm, ends 20 Feb, £6-£25.

 VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her downtrodden family. Albery Theatre 5t Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-369 1730) → Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 3pm. ends 27 Mar, £5-£29.50.

) THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Theatre Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) 5t Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ← Leic Sq/Chartng X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, 14]]7] 3.30pm, £5-£25, 90 mlns.

WEST SIDE STORY Brand nes owes 1 side 5100 of Bernsteins classic musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Theatre Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) OLE ic Sq/Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5)(7] 3pm, £18.50-£35, 160 mins.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aidwych Theatre Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 0171-836 2428) & Holborn. Mon-Sat 745pm. [5) (7) 3pm. F10-F32 50, 120 m/ss. 3pm. £10-£32.50. 120 mins.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK SUsan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Theatre Russell Street, WCZ (0171-836 2238/cc 0171-344 4444) © 8pm, )3) 3pm. [7] 4pm. £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

#### **THEATRE** BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE Certain Y ten Peter Gill's comedy of co temporary manners looks at the sexuality and the modern man. Mon-Sat 7,30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 20 Feb. £9.50-£19.50. concs available. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) Highbury and Islington

GATE THEATRE Intimate Death Stage adaptation of French psychologist De Hennezel's diaries. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 13 Feb. £10. corics £6. Pembridge Road, W11 (0171-229 0706) Soluting Hill

KING'S HEAD, ISLINGTON The Vagina Monologues Eve Ensler performs her own acclaimed off-Broadway hit. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats 5at & Sun 3.30pm, ends 6 Mar. £12-£13. Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916) Angel/Highbury & Islington,

#### **THEATRE** COUNTRYWIDE

BASINGSTOKE HAYMARKET THEATRE The Seag-ull Chekhov's last play about a Russ-ian family vainly trying to protect their estate as they hurch towards bank-rupter, Tue-Sat 7.45pm, ends 13 Feb. £9.50-£15.50, concs available

#### FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Call

HEAVY METAL hand Kiss (right) will once again don their fright make-up and skin-tight costumes when they bring their music circus show to England in March. Nostalgia madness or a welcome come-back, the diehard fans of this band, which first formed back in the mid-1970s, really don't care. With a string of hits to their name. Kiss are from the old school of heavy metal, now reconstructed with 1990s irony, of course. Wembley Arena, London (0181-902 0902) 25 Mar

Last Call

MICHAEL FRAYNS Alarms and Excursions is a witty look at the problems arising from new technology. Ostensibly raising serious questions about whether gadgets and gizmos represent a genuine advance or are just a pain in the neck, this is a series of eight comic sketches that range from Nicky Henson and his confidence in tools, to Robert Bathurst wandering lost around Gatwick while his host scours Heathrow for him. This work offers an insight into the weaknesses in human nature and how we deal with failure, our insecurities and paranoia.

Gielguld Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 (0171-494 5065) to 6 Mar

BATH THEATRE ROYAL Macbeth Rufus Sewell stars in Shakespeare's great-est tragedy. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Feb. £10-£23,50 Sawclose (01225-448844)

BRIGHTON KOMEDIA The Garden of Habus tan Story of a young Israeli who en-counters an elderly Palestinian man who has returned to claim his land. Tonight 8.30pm. £7.50, cones £6 Gardner Street (01273-647100)

CHIPPING NORTON CHIPPING NORTON THEATRE ing and poetic translation of Sophocies' story of torrid family conflic Tonight 8pm. £8.75, concs £7 Spring Street (01608-642350)

YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE The Prisoner of Second Avenue Richard Dreyfuss and Marsha Mason star in Neil Simon's comedy about a mid-life crisis. Mon-Thur 7,45pm, Fri-Sat. 8pm, mats Thur & Sar, 2.30pm, ends 13 Feb, £10-£21.50, concs available Millbrook (01483-440000)

KING'S LYNN KING'S LYNN ARTS CENTRE Tess of the D'Urbevilles Musical adaptiation of Thomas Hardy's classic novel about a 19th-century country girl. Tonight 7.30pm. £8.50, coccs £7.50 King Street (01553-764864)

MALVERN MALVERN FESTIVAL THEATRE Joseph and the Amazing Techni-color Dreamcoat Tim Rice and An-drew Lloyd Webber's musical version of the Bible story. Mon-Thur 2,30pm & 7,30pm, Fri & Sat, 5pm & 8pm, ends 20 Feb. £14,521.50, concs available. Grange Pood (01686) available Grange Road (01684-

MILFORD HAVEN TORCH THEATRE The Woman in Black Chilling story with a twist. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £8, concs £5 St Peters Road (01646-695267)

NEWBURY

Tom Stoppard's farce is set in 1850's Vienna. Tonight 7.45pm. £10, concs E8 Market Place (01 635-522733) WATERMILL THEATRE More Talking Heads Janet Brown, Patricia England and Sophie Lawrence bring Alan Bennett's superb monologues to life. Tue-5at 7.30pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Mar. E6-

£16.50 Bagnor (01635-46044) OXFORD PLAYHOUSE THEATRE Making Noise Quietly Robert Holman's se-ries of short pieces depicting encounters between strangers in the shadow of war. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat today 2.30om, ends 13 Feb. F6-F13

THE MILL AT SONNING Two Doze Red Roses Comic love story set in romantic Rome. Tue-Sat 8.15pm. mats Sat 2.15pm, ends 20 Feb. £21.95-£32.95 incl dinner Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000)

SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE BIRTH Spirit Noel Coward's comedy, about a man haunted by the spirit of his dead wife, is revived for his centenary. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, mat today 2.30pm, ends 13 Feb. E9-

STAG THEATRE Talking Heads Three of Alan Bennett's funny yet touching and troubling studies of the foibles of human nature. Wed-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Feb. E8.50, concs £7.50 London Road (01732-

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of obsessive jealousy directed by Gre-gory Doran. Today 1.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 4 Mar. E7-E30 Waterside (01789-295623) SWAN THEATRE A Month in the

Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgeney's portrait of all-consuming sexual desire. Michael Attenbor-ough directs. Koday 1.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30 Troifus and Cressida Shakespeare's depiction of the human spirit un dermined by bloody warfare. Tonight 7.30pm. ends 20 Feb. E5-E30 Wa-

terside (01789-295623) WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA CLIFFS PAVILION Popcorn Emma Noble stars in Een Ellon's satire on cinema violence. Tonight 8pm, ends 13 Feb. £13.50-£22.50 Station

PALACE THEATRE CENTRE Women on the Verge of HRT Two fortysomething women discuss their situation in life. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 20 Feb. £5.50-£14.50. concs avail

NEW VICTORIA THEATRE The Gin Game Frith Banbury directs Joss Ackland and Dorothy Tutin in this sensitive and firmly drama which cen-tres around a lengthy game of Gin Runny, Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Wed 2.30pm, ends 13 Feb. £6-£16, concs available Peacocks Arts & Entertainments Centre (01483-761144)

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

THE ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY Between Two Worlds: Pioneering British Women Pho-tographers Including Madam Yevnnie and Julia Margaret Cameron. On the Water: Silvia Ferran and Christian Vnaraja Two artists from Barcelona present a series of large

photograph Memory and Skin: Joy Gregory Interactive photographic installation, part of 10:98 for Photo '98. Mon-Sun 9.30am-5.30pm, ends 21 Mar. 22.50, concs £1.75. The Octagon Galleries, Milsom Street (01225-452841)

BRUTON BRUTON GALLERY Forming the Figure Including works by Rodin and Henry Moore, Mon-Fri I Dam-1 pm & 2pm-5pm, ends 20 Mar, free. Stockwell House, Bruton High Street (1274), 912305. (01749-812205)

FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM The Society of Three: Whistler; Fantin-Latour and Alphonse Legros Exhibition of drawing and prints examining the common stylistic ground of the three artists. Ends 14 Feb. Picasso and Marisse Prints, drawings and ceramics from the muse jum's collection. Ends 11 Apr. Recent Acquisitions of Contemporary American Prints Early etchings of the East Coast, lithographs, woodcuts and screenprints. Tue-Sai 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 2 May, free. Trumping-ton Street (01223-332900)

ANTHONY D'OFFAY Andy Warhol Sculpture and paintings. Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm, ends 11 Mar, free. Dering Street, W1 (0171-499 4100) ⊕ Bond Street/Ox-ford Circus.

DESIGN MUSEUM Mini: Forty Years of a Design Icon Mini's designed by celebrities mark the 40th anniversary of the vehicle. Opens Feb 9, Ends 9 May, museum). Modern Britain 1927-1939 A study CORN EXCHANGE On the Razzle on the important period after the Great War including the work of Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Bar-bara Hepworth, Mon-Sun 11,30am-5pm, ends 18 Jul. £5.25, concs £4 (to museum). Shad Thames, SE1 (0171-378 6055) & Tower Hill.

HAYWARD GALLERY Patrick Caulfield More than 50 colourful paintings by the leading British artist, Mon. Thur-5un 10am-6pm Tue & Wed 10am-8pm, ends 11 Apr. E6, conts E4, family E12, Belveder Road, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BRV-

NATIONAL GALLERY in the Light of Fra Angelico: Zanobi Strozzi Study exhibition exploring the paint-ings of the 15th-century artist, Ends 7 mar.

Portraits by ingres Major exhibition of paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Mon, Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm. Wed 10am-10pm, ends 25 Apr. £6, concs £4, Wed £4 7pm-10pm. Trafalgar Square, WCZ (0171-747 2885) © Charing Cooks 15 februare.

Charing Cross, Leicester Square. ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Monet in the 20th Century Eighty paintings made in the 25 years after 1900. Mon-Thur. Sun 9am-6pm. Fri 4 Sat 9am-10pm. ends 18 Apr. £9. concs £6. child (12-18) £3, child (8-11) £1.50. Burlington House.

(8-11) £1.50. Burlington House, Piccadilly. W1 (0171-300 8000/cc 413 1717) & Green Park. TATE GALLERY Turner in the Alps Works on paper made on Turner's first Alpine trip in 1802. Ends 14 Feb. In Celebration: The Art of the Country House Paintings and sculpture, including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbeln Mon-5un 10am-5.50mm, ends 28 Feb. free. Milibank, SW1 (0171-887

OXFORD ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Chinese Silks Brightly coloured 18th and 19th century hangings. Ends 28 Feb. Nineteenth Century French Draw Ings Recent acquisitions alongsid ings Recent acquisitions alongside familiar drawings. Ends 28 Feb. The Painterly Brush Oil sketches dating from the 16th to the early 20th century. Tue-Sat 10am-4pm, 5un mont Street (01865-278000)

ST IVES TATE GALLERY Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the century, plus a selection of contemporary work. Quelt Mentserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies, the artist's birthplace. Mon-Sa 11am-7pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50. concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

GLYNN VIVIAN ART GALLERY Venice Through Canaletto's Eyes by the Venetian artist Tue-Sun 10am-Spm, ends 14 Mar, free, Alexandra Road (01792-651738/655006)

WOLVERHAMPTON WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY Disasters of War: Callot, Goya, Dix Selections from three artists' war etchings. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 20 Mar, free. Lichfield Street (01902-

#### CLASSICAL

BRISTOL ST GEORGE'S BRANDON HILL OFchestra of the Age of Enlighten-ment/Huggett Charpenher Rameau and other French works. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£15. Brandon Hill (0117-

> LONDON BARBICAN HALL Vienna Sympho-Mozart's ny Orchestra/Fedoseyev Mozart's 20th Piano Concerto with Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony Tonight 7.30pm. £10-£30. Barbican Centre. EC2 (0171-638 8891) + Barbican.

ST JOHN'S, SMITH SOUARE Beethoven's Emperor Piano Concerto and 8th Symphony. Tonight 7.30pm. E6-E15. Smith Square, SWI (0171-222 1061) ◆ Wesi-

#### **OPERA**

LONDON COLLSEUM The Barber of Seville Rossini's enduring comedy in a revival of ENO's production which was originally directed by Jonathan Miller, Tonight 7,30pm, £5-£55, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300)

SPITALFIELDS MARKET OPERA The Dialogue of the Carmelltes Trinity College of Music production of Poulenc's only full-length opera. Ionight 7.30pm. £5-£9. Lamb Street. £1 (0171-377 1362)

#### DANCE

LABAN CENTRE Gary Lambert: The White Room Focussing on the aesthetics of dance and performance in an abstract form. Tonight 7.30pm, E6.50. concs £5. Laurle Grove, SE14 phone for prices.

(0181-692 4070) ← New Cross. SADLER'S WELLS Birmingham Royal Ballet: The Prospect Before Us/The Protecting Veil/In The Up-per Room The works of choreogra-phers Dame Ninette de Valois, David Builtey and the Olivier award winner Twyla Tharp's In The Upper Room, danced to a score by Philip Glass. Ionight 7.30pm. £7.50-£42.50. Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (0171-863 8000) & Angel.

#### LITERATURE

JOHN HEGLEY - OUT OF LUTON AT THE POINT The bespectscled et with a revealingly autobiogra-cal show. Tonight 7.45pm, Le Road (01703-652333) £7.50, concs

CHARLES DICKENS' GREAT EX-PECTATIONS, PART 2 George Curry concludes his reading of the classic novel. National Portreit Gallery St. Martins Place WC (0171-312 2463) & Chaning Cross. Today 1.10pm, free.

AMBIT 155 LAUNCH Marita Over, Nick Sweeney and Satyendra Sri-vastava launch the literary maga-zine's 155th issue. Waterstone's (Islington) Islington Green N1 (0171-704 2280) & Angel/Highbury

#### **COMEDY**

CAMBRIDGE JOHN SHUTTLEWORTH IN KEN'S KARVERY AT THE JUNCTION Gra-ham Fellows, the star of 500 Bus Stops. Tonight 8,30pm, Clifton Road (01223-511511) £9, concs £7.

THE COMEDY STORE The Best In Stand-Up with Canadian comic Rus-Stand-Up with Canadian comic Kus-sell Peters, Boothby Graffee, Regi-nald D Hunter, plus open spots, MC Sean Meo. Toright 8pm. Öxendon Street. SWI (01426-914433/cc 0171-344 4444) Piccadilly Circus, £12, concs £7,

SOUTHAMPTON ENNIO MARCHETTO AT THE GANTRY Italian paper cut out cos-tumed entertainer. Tonight 8pm, Blechyden Terrace (01703-229319) £8. concs £6.

#### **CLUBS**

LONDON LONDON

SPACE AT BAR RUMBA Starring
Harvey and Andy Weatherall Toright
10pm-3am, Shaftesbury Avenue,
WI (0171-287 2715) & Piccadilly
Circus, £5, £3 before 11pm. STARSKY AND HUTCH UPSTAIRS

AT RONNIE SCOTT'S Much-loved 1970s disco, funk and rare groove night. Tonight 10pm-3am. Frith Screet, WI (0181-654 0523) &

Leicester Square. £6, NUS £4. THE LOFT AT HOS Paul "Trouble" Anderson spins house. Tonight 9.30pm-2am, West Yard, NWI (0171-48S 6044) & Camden Town, E5. concs £4.

#### **EVENTS**

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON AND HOVE CAMERA CLUB EXHIBITION Second annual exhibition of this acclaimed group. Gardner Arts Centre University of Sussex, Lewes Road (01273-685861) Mon-Sat 10arh-6pm, ends

LONDON
JEWISH ARTS FOCUS A wide range
of arts events drawn from Jewish culture, with theatre, music and comedy. The Buil Theatre Gallery Studios
High Street (0181-449 0048) ↔
High Barnet. Ends 14 Feb, phone for
derails

**GRCUS OF HORRORS Adult rock** circus from Archaes Pierrot Bidon with death-delying stunts involving chainsaws and tightrope motorbikes. Roundhouse Chalk Farm Road NW1 (0171-420 0171/cc 0171 482 1011) Chalk Farm. Tue-Sat 8pm, ends 21 Feb, Valentines night party 14 Feb, 9.30pm, £10-£20.

#### MUSIC

JERRY HOLLAND, ATLANTIC BRIDGE Acciamed Cape Breton fiddler on a UK tour, Boat Race East Boar (0133) 5005581 CAMBRIDGE Road (01223-508533) Tonight

7.45pm, phone for prices. ROCKIN' ON HEAVEN'S DOOR Corn Exchange Wheeler Street (01223-357851) Tonight 7.30pm, £11, £9.50.

CARDIFF STAMPING GROUND British hardcore racket from the current album. An Expression of Repressed Vio-lence. Boglez Rock Club Penarth Road (01222-233176) Tonight 8pm.

LONDON LEONARD. HESTER THRALE RIS ing alt-types with Geldof's favourites Leonard fending off the major labels with some biting melodies mid-fi. Bull & Gate Kendsh Town Road NWS (0171-485 5358) · Kentish Tonight 8.30pm, £4, concs £3.50.

INDIAN ROPEMAN, SPACE RAIDERS Skint Records night fea-turing last-rising talent from the groundbreaking big beat kidel. Ding-walls Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road NWI (0171-267 1577) & Camden Town. Tonight 9pm. £6.50.

RUINS, KENNY PROCESS TEAM

Japanese psychedelic experimen-tal duo starring John Zorn's favourite musician Tabsuya Yoshida. The Spitz Commercial Street E1 (0171-392 9032) Tube/BR Liverpool Street. Tonight 8pm, £7, concs £5. SUZI QUATRO, ALVIN STARDUST, THE RUBETTES Marathon triple-header 1970s nostalgia tour As-

sembly Hall Theatre Crescent Road

(01892-530613) Tonight 7.30pm,

#### phone for prices. MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

PETER ASPLUND QUARTET Fluid postbop trumpeter from Sweden. 606 Club Lots Road SW10 (0171-Court. Tonight 10pm, £5.45.

PUTTE WICKMAN QUARTET Ac-claimed guitarist Ulf Walcenius guests with leading Swedish reedman. Bull's Head Lonsdale Road SW13 (0181-876 5241) BR: Barnes Bridge. Tonight 8pm, phone for prices. PHILIP CATHERINE/CHRIS MINH DOKY Hotiy tipped modal guitar and bass-led trio. Pizza Express Jazz

Glub Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722) & Tottenham Court Road, Tonighi 9pm, £12.50 (Wed-Thu), £15 (Fri-Sai), £20 (5un) VIKTORIA TOLSTOY QUARTET Standards to soul vocalist featuring planist Jan Lundgren. Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge SW1 (0171-235 5273) Phyde Park Corner. Tonight 9.150m & 11.150m 18. adv \$16 9.15pm & 11.15pm, 18, adv £16.

FLORA PURIM/AIRTO MOREIRA, ARNE DOMNERUS Brazilian fusion nstitution, support set from leading Swedish saxman. Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) ◆ Leicester Square, Yonight 9.30pm, £15, merns £4 (Mon-Thu): £20, mems £8 (Fri-Sat)

HARALD SVENSSON SEXTET Accomplished Swedish planist and arranger plays contemporary bop. Vorcex Stoke Newington Church Street N16 (0171-254 6516) BR Stroke Newington Topicht Open 59 Stoke Newington. Tonight 9pm, £8, ECLECTIC VOICES Scott Stroman's uplifting choral suite. Poole Arts Centre Kingland Road (01202-685222) Tonight 8pm, £S.50.

WELLINGBOROUGH WELLINGEOROUGH
MARK NIGHTINGALE CLIARTET
Melodic trombonist plays original
mainstream and bop compositions.
The Castle Castle Way (01933270007) Tonight 8pm, £5, concs.

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#### THURSDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM ) 6.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe, 4.00 Chris Moyles, 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Dave Pearce. 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session 10.00 Trade Update. 10.10 John Peel. 12.00 Andy Kershaw. 2.00 Clive Warren. 4.00 -6.30 Scott Mills.

RADIO 2

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(88-90.2MHz FM ) 6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Richard Allinson. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 David Allan. 8.00 Paul Jones. 9.00 Punt and Dennis: It's Been a Bad Week. 9.30 Comedy Showcase: Canned Heat. 10.00 Melly Talks Jazz 10.30 Nicky Horne. 12-00 Katrine Leskanich. 3.00 -4.00 Mo Dutta.

RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM ) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Fosemble 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 In Tune.

7.00 Performance on 3. See Pick

of the Day. 8.10 LMP at 50. Susan Sharpe explores the history, aims and achievements of the London Mozart Players. With contributions from musicians who have played with the orchestra, and conductors past, present and future: founder Harry Blech, music director Matthias Barnert, and James Galway, who becomes principal guest conductor in September.

8.30 Concert, part 2. Mozart: Vado ma dove? K583; Al desio di chi t'adora (The Marriage of Figaro); Bella mia fiamma, K528; Symphony No 29 in A, K201

9.45 Postscript, Five programmes celebrating 50 years of photojournatism from the world's most famous photo agency. 4: 'Surviving History'. The shaping events and movements of the postwar era as they have been captured on film by

6.00 Redwood Curtain (1995) (49508).

Acourt The Directors (25541).

gotten City of Planet of the Apes (1974)

(68594), 7.00 Angus (1995) (22072), 9.00

Voyage of Terror (1996) (78614), **11.00** Nemesis (1992) (801430), **12.35** Jaibreak

(9066183). 3.40 I, the Jury (1982) (486744).

(1997) (961522), 2:10 The Ticket (1997)

5.30 - 7.00 Desperate (1947) (35831).

4.00 Sherlock Holmes and the Voice of

Terror (1942) (4360324), 5.30 Hollywood

Hall of Fame (3327459). See Pick of the

1096898). 10.00 From Noon till Three

Pauline (1967) (7265850). 1.25 | Walk the

Line (1970) (9262909), 3,05 The Legend of Hell House (1973) (2053454), 4,40 - 6,00

(1976) (7949430). 11.40 The Perils of

6.00 Widows' Peak (1994) (98085188)

7.40 Sunny Spells (1929966), 8.00 Raining Stones (1993) (8489695), 10.00 Black

Bainbow (1989) (6777633), 11.45 The In-

nocents (1961) (2720362). 1.25 Nothing

Personal (1995) (7533251). 2.50 - 6.00

4.00 Rex Hunt Specials (3515701). 4.30

Walker's World (3511985), 5.00 Wheel

Nuts (4678459). 5.30 Treasure Hunters

(3502237). **8.00** Animal Doctor (3592850). **6.30** Australian Deserts: An

Unnatural Dilemma (8337898), 7.30 The Elegant Solution (3512614). 6.00 Discover

Magazine (6204053). 9.00 Science Fron-

ners (6224817). 15.00 War and Civilisa-

(9792140), 12.00 High Anxiety (6223102).

Arizona Dream (1993) (75754015).

MISCOVERY CHANNEL

Day. **6.00** Son of Paleface (1852) (1084053). **8.00** The Racket (1951)

Private Hell 36 (1954) (18664218).

SKY CINEMA

FILMFOUR

8.00 Amy (1981) (92343). 10.00 Carpool

695). **12.00** The Directors

#### PICK OF THE DAY

CONTINUING THE trend of merging drama and documentary is Cubau Soln (2.15pm R4), David Pownall's account of the life and murder of the Cuban anti-corruption judge and classical composer, Alejandro Caturia. The research behind the play brought new information to light. Sadly though, Robert Glenister's Ceturia conjures Harrow rather than Havana.

Magnum's most brilliant photogra-

Skeaping introduces a selection of

music in praise of the Virgin, includ-

ing Antoine Brumel's 'Ave virgo glo-

Hasse performed by soprano Ém-

reading the Bible as literature rather

ma Kirkby and London Baroque.

10.45 Night Waves. What does

than history reveal about the an-

Thomas L Thompson, whose new

Writers Create a Past', contributes

to one of the most controversial de-

more biblical conflict in Nick Darke's

hattle between rival towns: e report

from tonight's opening at the Royal National Theatre. Plus views of Pi-

ranests monumental prison series.

for the first time.

RADIO 4

6.00 Today.

Our Time.

respondent,

11.30 Jazz Notes

(92.4-94.6MHz FM )

9.45 Serial: Tulip.

1130 Fat Chance.

9.30 Matchmakers. (R)

on display at the Courtauld Institute

12.00 Composer of the Week: Liszt.

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

9.00 NEWS; Melvyn Bragg - in

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

11.00 NEWS; From Our Own Cor-

book, 'The Bible in History: How

bates in cultural history. There is

new play, 'Riot', when a dispute

among Cornish fishermen over

Sunday observance turns into a

cient world? Paul Allen talks to

Consort, and e 'Salve regina' by

phers. (R) 10.10 Music Restored Lucie

riosa' sung by the Orlando

There are two celebrations tonight; in Performance on 3 (7pm R3), the London Mozart Players mark their 50th anniversary with a concert at the Royal Festival Hall.

Ruskin at 100 (Spm R4) charts the history of the Oxford college and ponders its role in the 21st century with a little help from John Prescott (right). DOMINIC CAVENDISH

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours. 1.00 The World at One. L30 Open Country. 2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

2.15 Afternoon Play: Cuban Solo.

See Pick of the Day.
3.00 NEWS; Call You and Yours: 0870 010 0444. 3.30 Going, Going, Gone. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. 4.00 NEWS; Law in Action.

4.30 The Material World. 5.00 PM. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 Yes, Minister. (R)

7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. Mark Lawson chairs the arts programme, chart-ing the changing reputation of Robin Willams - from Mnrk to Mrs Doubtfire, Vietnam DJ to voice-over artiste, schoolmaster to psychiatrist. 7.45 Speaking for Themselves. Dramatised excerpts from the letters of Britain's great wartime leader and his wife Clementing, taken from the newly published collection edited by their daughter, Mary Soames. With Alex Jennings as Winston, Sylvestra le Touzel as Clementine, and Helen Bourne as

the narrator (9/10). 8.00 NEWS; Ruskin at 100. February 1899. Oxford Town Hall is packed to the rafters. Hundreds have come to the founding meeting of Ruskin College, a radical new experiment in the education of the working man, 100 years on, Steve Richards, political editor of the New Statesman, asks if there is still a place for an Oxford College dedicated to worker's education, in the

age of New Labour. See Pick of the

Day. 8.30 The Week in Westminster. Michael Crick takes a look behind the scenes at Westminster. 9.00 NEWS; Testbeds, Vanessa Collingridge exploree the technologies that shape nur lives. 9.30 Melvyn Bragg - in Our Time. Melvyn Bragg and guest discuss ideas and events which have influenced our time. 10.00 NEWS; The World Tonight. With Robin Lustig. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Mark Twain Stories. 'A Ghost Story'. Bumps in the night. Kelsey Grammar reads the fourth of five tales. 11.00 NEWS: The Way It is Satire eketches and e herd look behind the week's media events. With Simon Evans, Tracy-Ann Oberman and Dave Lamb. 11.30 A Gond Read. (R) 12.00 News. 12-30 Late Book: Lemona's Tale. 12.48 Shipping Forecast.

1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 . 6.00 Farming Today. **RADIO 4 LW** 

(198kHz) 9.45 · 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast.
 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

**RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 909kHz MW ) 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell.

12.00 The Midday News. 100 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra.

7.30 The Hardest Game. Concluding the series in which former BBC boxing correspondent Harry Car-penter reflects on the sport from the 1950s to the present day. This week, he remembers legends like Sugar Ray Robinson and Henry

8.00 Inside Edge. Rob Bonnet and the team examine the issues that affect the sporting world. 9.00 Hoops. Fat Freddy M rounds up the latest news from the British sketball scene.

9.30 Sportshop. Trixie Rawlinson presents the sports consumer programme, including sporting investi-gations and news of all the latest sporting gadgets.

10.00 Late Night Live. With Nick Robinson, Incl 1030 Sport, 1100 News. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 100 Up All Night.

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM (100.0-1019MHz FM)

6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kel-ly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jane Markham. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 1L00 Michael Mappin, 2.00 Concerto, 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths. VIRGIN RADIO

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM ) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Mark Forrest. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 7.30 Pete & Geoff, 10.00 James Merritt. 1.00 Steve Power. 4.30 · 6.30 Richard Allan. **WORLD SERVICE RADIO** 

(198kHz LW ) 1.00 The World Thday, 1.30 Westway. 1.45 Performance. 2.00 The World Today. 2.30 Focus on Faith. 3.00 The World Today, 3.20 Sports Roundup, 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight, 4.00 -7.00 The World Today (4.00-7.00).

TALK RADIO 6.00 Big Boys Breakfast with David Banks & Nick Ferrari. 9.00 Scott Chisholm, 1.00 Anna Raeburn, 3.00 Peter Deeley, 5.00 The SportZone. 7.00 One to One with Andy Gray, 8.00 James Whale. 12.00 - 6.00 lan Collins.

(6863053). 9.00 The Young Ones (8946411). 9.45 Bottom (2754508). 10.25

Ivanhoe (29753508). 11.30 The Bill

(4146940), 12,00 The Bill (6023812)

12.30 Black Adder (1584102), 110

Spender (2350611), 2.05 Colin's Sand-

6.00 Tiny and Crew (37809275). 6.20

Johnson and Friends (83716546), 6.30 Philbert the Frog (12897633), 6.40 Tiny

Tales (84244188). 6.45 Greedysaurus and

wich (5861893), 3.0 Shopping (6467096).

#### INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

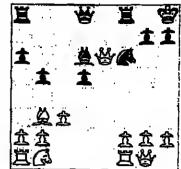
**CHESS** JON SPEELMAN

JOY OH joy, my local Tube station has installed automatic gates. Just before this, I overheard e sadistic petty official relishing the prospect of miscreants damaging their limbs while trying to vault over. A heavy punishment, you may think, but not in the league of the summary executinn that can befall the chess player incautious ennugh to snatch a single hot pawn.

Sometimes, of course, it's quite correct to take a pawn, even at the cost of development in the opening, if this damages the opponent's position permanently. Indeed, with the introduction of engines such as (ChessBase's) Fritz and his many friends, pawn-snatching has received ever wider exposure, for these materialistic monsters give great weight to the exact pawn count and often fail, especially if given insufficient "thinking" time, to spnt the compensation beyond their search horizons. The blasted things, moreover, are painfully good at defending their ill-gotten gains against us mere mortals: and an overexposure to them may

skew our judgement in this matter. The fact remains, though, thet a thoroughly poisoned pawn is thuroughly poisoned, and can be ingested only at at great risk. Take this game from the match, just nver a fortnight ego, between Gwent Dragons and Guildford in the second divisinn of the Four

Netions' Chess League. This whole line, jettisoning a hishop so early, looks fairly harmless and King met it head on with the provocative 11 ... Bd6!? If White insists on taking a pawn in the opening, he might try 12 Bxd5!? Nxd5 13 Qxd5 when King intended simply Rb8. Insteed Varley decid-



ed to "punish" Black's play with the disastrous 12 Qe3+ and 13 Nf4.

When Dan showed me the game, my obsolute first instinct in the diegram was 16 ... Ra7, but nf cnurse 16 ...Qb6! is infinitely stronger. The main threat is 17 ...Bxh2+ but 17 ...Ne4 is also vicinus. Unsurprisingly, if 17 Bxd5 Rae8 18 Qf5 Nxd5 19 Qxd5 Qxf2+;

20 Rxf2 Re1+ 21 Rf1 Rexf1 is mate. 18 ... Bxh2+ was utterly decisive. If 21 f4 Ne3 22 Od3 Nxf1+ 23 Qxf1 and eg Rxf4 24 Qxf4 Re3+ 25 Kg4 h5+. At the end, White can't even sacrifice his queen tn prolong the agony significantly. And all this for one bot pawn!

#### White: Peter Varley Black: Dan King Sicilian 2.c3

13 Nd4: 0-0! 1 e4 c5 2 c3 e6 14 Nxe6 fxe6 3 d4 d5 15 Qxe6+ Kh8 4 exd5 exd5 16 0-0 (see 5 Be3 cxd4 diagram: Qb6! 6 Bxd4 Nc6 17 Qe2 Rae8 7 Bb5 e6 18 Qc2 Bxh2+! 8 Ba4 b5 19 Kxh2 Ng4+ 9 Bb3 Nxd4 20 Kg3 Qd6+ 10 Qxd4 Nf6 21 Kxg4 Qf4+

22 Kh3 Re6

#### POKER DAVID SPANIER

11 Ne2 Bd6!?

12 Qe3+? Be6

THE BRITS did well et the recent high pairs. And at the final table he Rio carnival of poker in Las Vegas. The good players won and the other players learned a lot. Among the winners, John Kabbaj, 25, one of the up and coming (sometimes down and going) younger players on the London circuit, showed good form. His aggressive style prevailed over 150 rivals; he took first prize of \$40,000 in the \$1,000 pot limit Omaha event.

The turning-point hand for John came just before the final table, when he found 7-7-K-10 on the hig blind. The flop came down 7-J-Q. Bottom trips is a good but dangerous hand at Omaha (the four card version of Hold 'em). With 15,000 in chips left, John raised 2,000. When he got re-raised, he stopped to think. He was inclined et first to throw his hand away. But with a straight draw as well as trips, and the chance, if his hand held up, of becoming chip leader, he stuck all his money in.

This is the kind of risk you have to take in tournament play, if you are playing to win (and not merely to hang in there as long as possible). Even if you think you may be taking slightly the worst of it, the bet is justified. In this instance. John's trips stood up against two

was in a commanding position. Tournament play is as different from cash games as, say, nne-day cricket is from a regular match. As it happens Kabbaj (known to all as "Cabbage") is a fast bowler who can swing it when he needs to. The best book on tournament

play is the former world champion Tom McEvoy's Tournament Poker, available from High Stakes, London's new gamblers' bookshop (21. Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JB, (0171-430 1021, fax 430 0021) at £34.95, plus 10 per cent postage. "There is a very fine line between loose pley and solid aggressive play," McEvoy advises. The former world champion Phil Hellmuth says in his foreword that he begged McEvoy not in write the hook. It gives eway too many secrets!

The most detailed and technical book nn tournament play is Poker Tournament Strategies by Sylvester Suzuki, pen name of e freelance writer living in California. This little hook is the tournament equivalent of Zen and the Art of Mntor Cycle Maintenance - immensely practical, if you beopen to be driving round the highways and byways of American card rooms.

#### SATELLITE AND CABLE

#### PICK OF THE DAY

(21782). 1.00 Femmes Fatales (30430). 2.00 Redwood Curtain (1995) (85904). WHILE JUSTLY celebrated for generosity his ruthlessness, his 4.00 Amy (1981) (7072). 6.00 Carpool al. 966). 8.00 Holywood Buzz (4985). in 19 Intimate Relations (1995). Long 19895). 10.15 Courage under Fire ened ) (387140). 12.10 How to Make an The winner of two Oscars - for (5.30pm Sky Cinema). Mylcan Quilt (1995) (136589). 2.05 The both at of e Lady (1996) (93126473). 4.30 From Here to Eternity in 1953 and Acourt:

ofter (10VIEMAX)

filer (10VIEMAX)

Autority (1995) (9/332), 9.00 And Baby

Mailes Six (1979) (8/237), 11.00 Forgotten

City of Planet of the Apes (1974) (49053). in 1955 - he was able to convey a 1.00 Desperate (1947) (85053), 3.00 And fellow octor David Niven encap- these beliefs. Baby Makes Six (1979) (58607), 5.00 For-

his unrivalled singing ability, kindness, his loneliness, and his Frank Sinatra (right) has rumoured links with the Mob. perhaps not always got the Sinatra is profiled in today's credit he deserves as an actor. Hollywood Hall of Fame

Ancient tribal beliefs hold The Man with the Golden Arm that Pele, the fiery goddess of volcanoes, used to rule the variety of emotions on screen. Hawaiian Islands. The Curse Maybe this was down to his con- of the Goddess Pele (6pm tradictory personality, which History Channel) examines

JAMES RAMPTON



1.00 Treasure Hunters (3637960), 1.30 Wheel Nuts (3985251). 2.00 Close.

SKY ONE 7.00 Count Duckala (17140). 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (34459). 8.30 Hollywood Squares (97237), 8.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (14614). 18.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (32459). 11.00 Guilty! (12695). 12.00 Jenny Jones (38072). 100 Med about You (16411). 1.30 Jeopartiv (25508), 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (70121). 3.00 Jenny Jones (36140), **4.00** Guilty! (55275), **5.00** Star Trak: Voyager (1898), **8.00** Guilty! (2492). 6.30 Dream Team (6072), 7.00 The Simpsons (2527), 7.30 The Simpsons (2256). 8.00 America's Dumbest Criminals (1975) 8.30 World's Weirdest TV (1922). 8.00 Friends (51459). 9.30 E R (12188). 10.30 Varonica's Closet (68530). 11.00 Dream Team (56904). 11.30 Star Trek:

sulated thus: "his talent, his

Voyager (95701), 12-30 The Commish (70560), 1-30 - 7.00 Long Play (7682522). SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (3476482). 715 World Wrestling (921411). 8.15 You're on Sky Sports (2365782). 9.00 Racing News (80546). 9.30 Aerobics · Oz Style 84850), 16.00 Euro Tour Golf (550430). 1.00 Golf (920140), 4.00 Boxing - Big Fight Countdown (4695), 4.30 Futbol Mundial (8409), 5.00 World Wrestling Federation Superstars (3898). 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (4072). 6.30 Boxing - Big Fight Countdown (5324). 7.00 Football

Leggue Review (4527) 7.30 Firm Tour Golf (420430). 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (927633), 10.15 You're on Sky Sports (141904). 11.00 Boxing - Big Fight Countdown (72966). 11.30 Futbol Mundial (24966). 12.00 Sky Sports Centre (7661386). 12.15 You're on Sky Sports (3501725), 1.00 - 6.00 Golf (3587034).

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (7346463), 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (6670053), 7.45 Rac-ing News (3579459), 8.45 Unbelievable Sports (6336965), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (9624121). 9.00 Boxing - Big Fight Countdown (5295275). 9,30 International Football England vs France (5935782). 11.00 Pool (2396968). 12.00 Unbelievable Sports (5275411). 12.30 International Football England vs France (5948072). 2.00 Watersports (2267053), 3.00 V-Max (6213850). 3.30 Unbelievable Sports (9261492), 4.00 Pool (4904850), 5.00 Football Review (6225695), 5.30 What a Weekend (9293091), 6.00 Inside the PGA Tour (9290904), 6.30 The Rugby Club (5930237), 7,30 Ice Hockey (1217508). 10.00 Golf USA (4924614), 12.00 Rugby Club (4332270). 1.00 ice Hockey (1273760). 3.30 - 7.00 Cricket (2019367).

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 World Wrestling Federation Superstars (87023237). 1.00 Fish TV Fishing Texas (90814879). 1.30 Fish TV Americana Outdoors (87036701). 2.00 FA Cup sics (40410411), 3.30 Badminton

5384076331 6.30 Survival of the Fitteet (87908695), 7.00 Tight Lines (92102850). 8.00 Spanish Football (92122614), 10.00-11.30 Football Scrapbook (58639188).

EUROSPORT 7.30 Luge (70633). 8.00 Ski Jumping (26614). 9.00 Alpine Skling (50430). 10.00 Biathlon (76817). 11.00 Biathlon (70891). 12.30 Start Your Engines (22701), 1.30 Snowboarding (12633). 2.00 Blathion (21879), 3.00 Tennis (7614). 3.30 Tennis (79546). 5.30 Alpine Skiing (94633) 6.30 Tennis (88332) 8.00 Alpine Skiing (8343). 8.30 Alpine Skiing (37121). 9.30 Racing Line (55558). 10.00 Football European Championship Legends (23188). 11.00 Trial (77546). 12.00 Racing Line (98229). 12-30 Close.

UK GOLD 7.00 Crossroads (9785850), 7.30 Neighbours (4922237), 7.55 EastEnders (5044275), 8.30 The Bill (8027188), 9.00 The Bit (8001140). 9.30 When the Boat Comes in (9666017), 10.30 Rhoda (8007324), 11.00 Dallas (4080527), 11.55 Neighbours (78719850), 12.25 East-Enders (7686701). 1.00 Juliet Bravo (7660166), 2.00 Dalas 5721362), 2.55 The Bit (5240879). 3.25 The Bit 33169), 3,55 EastEnders (8802430), 4.30 Rhoda (3513343), 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (4659324). 8.00 Dynasty (1060922). 7.00 The Cornedy Al-

ternative: 2point4 Children (3161904), 7.40 Dad's Army (7385546), 8.20 Detectives

the Gang (84243459). 6.50 Poke Dot Shorts (84224324). 7.00 Practical Parenting (5983324). **7.05** Professor Bubble (8524508). **7.30** Callou (1972188). **7.35** Bug Alert (7761121). 7.55 Practical Parent ing (4207140). 8.00 Barney and Friends

(4224817). 8.25 Babaloos (1739237).

8.30 Calilou (8000053), 8.35 Tiny and Crew (5373459). 8.50 Practical Parenting 17613898). 9.00 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (5044701). 9.30 The Roseanne Show . Highlights (3391140). 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5664904). 10,50 Maury Povich (7228256). 11,40 Brookside (6834)275), 12.10 Animal Rescue (22594527), 12,40 Rescue 911 (96754966). 1.10 Special Babies (82394053). 1.40 Beyond Belief (66455879). 2.10 LA Lew (9543053). 3.10 Living Room (2636695), 4.00 Michael Cole (8647053), 4.50 Rolonda (3580445). 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (5231430). 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show (3985275). 7.05 Rescue 911 (2308091). 7.35 Animal Rescue (2649966). 8.10 Maury Povich 4898879). 8.00 Film: Shooting Elizabeth (1992) (1086411). 11.00 The Sex Zone (7949492), 12.00 Close.

9.00 Father of the Bride (1950) (92129527). 11.00 Boys' Night Out (1982) 34997891). 1.45 The Angry Hills (1959) (89565270). 3.45 Father of the Bride (1950) (42673744), **5.00** Close. PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Jenny (2169), 7.30 Grace under Fire (2850), 8.00 Ellen (1817), 8-30 Newsranio (3904). 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey

(91091). 9,30 Whose Line Is It Arryway (55512). 10,00 Frasier (69053). 10,30 Cheers (78701). 11.00 Seinfeld (70508). 11-30 The Larry Sanders Show (22508) 12.00 Late Night with David Laterman (17378), 1.00 Taxi (45812), 1.30 The Critic (82831), 2.00 Dr Katz (85589), 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (64096), 3.00 Nightstand (65676), 3.30-4.00 Abbott & Costello (68676).

#### REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

an m BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 London except: 8.30 Newsine 530 (492). 12.05 Hearts and Minds (6088541). 12.35 Film: Welcome to Blood City (327164), 2.10 Joins BBC News 24 (15840247).

> BEC1 SCOTLAND As REC1 London except: 12.30 Dotaman (36831546), 12.45 Dochaidh Mor (Oekey Doke) (26300343), 6.00 News (140) 6.30 Reporting Scotland (492)

REC1 WALES As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Wales Today (192) 11.00 Damon Rochelort Tonight (2343), 11.30 Question Time (901343), 12.35 Film: Welcome to Blood City (722560). 2.15 Joins BBC News 24 (52044928).

Anglia
As Carlton except: 12.20 Angla
Nows and Weather (8518411), 1.00 Shortland Street (9984614), 1.35 Home and iano Street (#984614), 1.35 Home and Away (25894121), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5869782), 3.20 Anglia News and Weather (7809607), 6.00 An-glia News (508), 6.30 About Anglia (188), 10.30 Anglia News and Weather

(592879), 12.10 Videotech Special (6072980), 12.40 The Jerry Springer Show (3880560), 1.25 T in the Park (8427386), 2.25 Box Office (7896831), 2.55 Cybernet (129183), 3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3152638), 4.10 Potty about Pets (47061831), 4.40 Coach (63783612), 3.40 CVA Methicago (67783612), 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (97164).

CENTRAL As Cariton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (8516411), 1.00 Echo Point (82817), 3.20 Central News (7909607). 5.10 Shortland Street 207411), 6.00 Home and Away (440508), 6.25 Central News (458527). 6.55 Lifetine (581614), 10.30 Central News; Weather (592879). 4.10 Jobfinder (6008137). 5.20 Asian Eye (7425812).

HTY WALES HTV WALES
As Cartton except: 10.30 This
Morning (1548850), 12.15 HTV News
(714879), 1.00 Shortland Street (92817),
1.30 Home and Away (40184), 2.00 The
Jerry Springer Show (5869782), 3.20
HTV News (7909807), 5.510 A Country Practice (\$207411). **8.00** Home and Away (440508). **6.25** Wates Tonight (975411). **7.30** Forgotten Treasures (512). **10.30** 

HTV News (592879), 12.10 We Can Work It Out (6072990). **12.40** Jerry Springer Show (3880560). **1.25** T in the Park (8427386). **2.25** Box Office (7896831). 2.55 Cybernet (1429183), 3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3152638), 4.10 Potty about Pets (47061831), 4-40 Coach (B3783812), 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (97164).

HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 6.25 HTV West Weather (712362). 6.30 The West 188). 7.30 We Can Work It Out (512). 12.10 Tales from the Darkside (6072960).

MERIDIAN

As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (11548850). 12.15 Meridian News and Weather (7124879). 1.00 Shortland Street (9984614). 1.35 Home and Away 25884121). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (5869782), 510 Home and Away (9207411). 5.37 Crimestoppers (1/5/82). 6.00 Meridian Tonight (508), 6.30 Get aways (189), 12:40 Jenny (5072980). 12:40 The Jerry Springer Show (3880560), 1:25 T in the Park (8427386). 2.25 Box Office America (7896831). 2.55 Cybernet (142983). 3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3152638). 4.10 Potty about

Pets (47061831). 4.40 Coach (83783812). 5.00 Freescreen (97164).

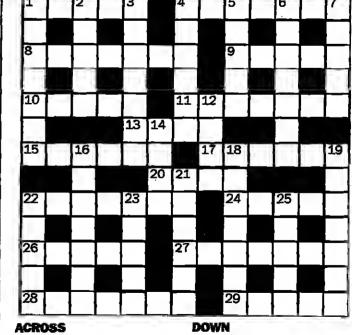
WESTCOUNTRY As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (1548850), 12.35 Westcountry News (7124879), 12.27 Suminations (8524430), 1.00 Emmerdale (92817), 6.00 Westcountry Live (87324). 12.10 Short Story Cinema (6072960). 12.40 The Jerry Springer Show (3880560). 1.25 T in the Park (8427386). 2.25 Box Office America (7896831). 2.55 Cybernet (429183). 3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3152638). 4.40 Potty about Pets (47061831). 4.40 Coach (63783812). 5.00 ITV Nightscreen (97164).

YORKSHIRE As Carlton except: 10.30 This As Carlton except: 10-30 This Morning (11548850). 12.15 Calendar News and Weether (7124879). 1.00 Home and Away (8482643). 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (4071965). 2.10 Emmerdate (7680256). 2.20 Calendar News and Weather (7909607). 5.40 News; Weather (485430). 5.35 Calendar (819256). 6.30 Tonight (188). 10.30 Calendar News (592879). 12.10 Videotech (2433831). 4.20 Jobfinder (8154611).

TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North East News and Weather (7124879). 3.20 North East News Headlines (7909607). .55 North East Weather (195546). 6.00 North East Tonight (87324), 10,30 North

As Channel 4 except: 8.00 Ysgo-ion/Schools (20807324), 12.00 Bewitched (29514898) 12.30 Sesame Street (38152985) 1.00 Planed Plant (3418091) 1.30 Travelog Treks (34234256), **1.45** Film: On the Fiddle (37755985), **4.30** Ricki Lake (81065188) 5.00 Planed Plant: Uned 5 (64546879). 5.30 Countdown (81049140). 6.00 Newyocion (54351382), 6.10 Heno Newyodon (54351362). 630 Peno (16234169). 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (6455343). 7.30 Newyddion (81066817). 8.00 Sisymaker (64568091). 8.30 Pam Fi Duw? (64554898). 9.00 i dot (44018481). 16.00 Dispatches (29515527). 10.30 Patther Ted (46710091). 8.35 Fionds (3157100). 41.35 Kinn ei 10.35 Friends (3167102). 11.35 King of the Hill (63509701). 12.05 Rising Damp (19647209). 12.35 Prey (55124893). 1.30 Short Stories (59277990). 2.05 Close.

#### CONCISE CROSSWORD No.3843 Thursday 11 February



Amusing (5) Hues (7) Impure (7) Audible warning (5) Terror (5)

11 Allocates (7) 13 Compass point (4) 15 Ammunition (6) 17 Public speaker (6) 20 Record (4)

22 Living in or oear water (7) 24 Slumber (5) 26 Best part (5) 27 Plunge into liquid (7) 28 Operating room (7) 29 Funeral song (5)

Scene of jousting (5) Type of piano (7) 7 Body cavity (5) 12 Desist (4) 14 Sparkling wine (4) 16 Stringed instrument (7) 18 Took up once mnre (7) 19 Full (7) 21 Busy (6) 22 Racecourse (5) 23 Allure (5) 25 Mistake (5) Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

Originator (7)

'Surrendered (7)

Tent material (6)

Comfortable spot (5)

ACROSS: 1 Inn, 3 Czech (In check), 7 Stampede, 8 Zero, 9 Old Testament, 10 Stolid, 12 Mishap, 14 Staying power 18 Aunt, 19 Sentence, 20 Every, 21 Kit, DOWN: 1 Introit, 2 Nomad, 3 Crest, 4 Enzymes, 5 Huron, 6 Defend, 11 Layene, 12 Moping, 13 Apricot, 15 Taupe,

TELEVISION REVIEW

BBC

sether (T) (492).

10

7.30 EastEnders. Ruth le finally forced to meke up her mind, which is soap-producer epeak for "fa-ta love, pick up your cards on your way out" (S) (T) (904).

8.30

11.00 Queetion Time. From Southempton, with Beroness Jsy, Lord Lemont, Archy Kirkwood MP and Mex Clifford (S) (T) (645/40).

12.05 **EILM** Welcome to Slood City (Petar Sesdy 1977 UK/Can), Sub-Westworld ectence fiction with Kair Dullea pleying e men who wakee up in e strange wild-weet town where he is hunted by Jack Palence (in the kind of role pleyed by Yul Brynner in Westworld), It's all an experiment conducted by the powers-that-be (T) (558812).

1.40 Joins 99C News 24 (33313524). To 8em

OUR LOWEST LINE RENTAL

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

HORIZON: ELEPHANTS OR IVORY (8.30pm BBC2, right)
Ten years ago, the world was told that only a ban on the trade in ivory could seve the African elephant from extinction. Since then, there has been something of a population explosion, and yesterday the International Confederation on the Trade in Endangered Species voted to lift this ban. Adrian Pennink's film travels to the elephant reserves of Kenya, the communal lands of Zimbabwe and Kruger National Park in South Africa to try and cut through the conditionalism surrounding the

BARKING MAD (8pm BBC) Like it or not, thi programme is returning as e series later in the Philippe Forrester (right), a Carol Vordermann presenter in the making, chellenges experts to dysfunctional pets e behavioural makeover. A c won't let its owners push him off their bed is su rether obvious case of over-promotion in the fau order. And then there's the "owners" of a rather cat, who can't stop it from frequenting other ho

s suffering from e e family pecking her pretty black rhomes. So just er, why would logs are for?

TCR64B8

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Modestables

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CHALLENGE SHOW OF

THE DAY

FILM OF THE DAY

this one-off the year

nn-style to give collie who



ws (T) (97382). anesse Show

5.35 Neighbours. Madge faces errest, you'll be concerned (relieved?) to learn (S) (T) (500188).

B.00 News| Weather (1) (140).

7.00 Wetohdog with Anne Robinson. Plue her little helpere: Alice Beer, Adrian Goldberg, Becky Evetta and Pat O'Mehony. Consumer Investigations (5) (T) (7817).

B.00 [HIII] Berking Med. See Challenge Show of the Day, below (S) (3237).

8.30 Fat Free. The diating docu-soep comwith Terri having lost e startling eight etc othera face up to the Christmae period of degrees of fear and losthing (S) (T) (50). 9.00 News| Regional Naws| We/ (7898)

body in an empty gled reletionships. all guest-star (R) (S) (T)

on selling ivo

10.20 Meetings with Remerkeble Trees (R) (359343).

11.15 Brooker. Today's highlights with Dougle Donnelly (Followed by Skiling Forecest) (S) (508408).

12.00 Deapetch Box (35753). 12.30 Open University:
Athens – Democracy for the Few (74184). 1.00 Cultures
of the Welkman (34183). 1.30 They Did it Their Way
(71102). 2.00 Further Education: Customer Cere (49725)
4.00 Lenguages: The French Experience I: 17-20
(87367). 8.00 Central Bureeu: Teaching with Foreign
Languages 2 (53198). 8.30 The Bridge: Starting
Secondary School (3848454). To 545am.

BBC2

DO Children's BBC1 Open a Door (R) (32455 Bleubblee (S) (5166508). 7.30 Snorks (6847.55 Blue Peier (S) (T) (4025558), 8.20 Ta: (7037256), 8.40 Polika Dot Shorts (S) (3016 Fiddley Foodle Bird (R) (S) (3012168). 9.00 (478089). 9.10 Bellef File – Judeism (S) (T) 9.30 Watch (S) (1928546), 9.46 Come Out (1918701), 10.00 Telehubblee (R) (S) (51072). Storytime (S) (2913895). 10.48 Teaching Tt (809527), 11.15 Zig Zag (S) (891166), 11.38 Bellef – islem (S) (8622646), 11.50 Job Bert 12.00 Job Bank (S) (T) (7141548), 12.10 El Context (S) (8678324), 12.30 Working Lunk (B) (71904), 2.40 News; Regionel News; Westmarter (S) (T) (2880; News; Regional News; Re

7.30 First Bight. Should the thousends of foxee living in the suburbe be viewed as peets end therefore hunted? It certainly conjures up rich images of the Quorn hunt charging through the privet hedges of Bromley (546).

Jeremy Clerkeon's Extreme Mechines. The loads a Swedieh stealth warehip, e V8-powered swebuggy, and a lib-size mechanical elephent (A) (3814).

9.00 Meet the Anoesfors. Julien Richarde joine erchaeologists in a farmer's field in Cheehire as they excavere a long-lost medieval chepel (S) (T) (8140).

9.30 ARIUINA Horizon: Elephente or Ivory. As the elephant populetion in Africa continues to graw. Horizon takes a look at the issues behind the lifting of the ban on selling lvory. See Documentery of the Dey, below (S)

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12.10 Teles from the Derkside (2433831), 12.48 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (3889831), 1.30 Pirele TV (2941305), 1.55 Highlender (R) (8808218), 2.48 Pop down the Pub (R) (S) (95763), 3.45 Cybernet (S) (80304367), 3.40 Potty about Pets (40224270), 4.40 Soundtrex (S) (28821783), 4.20 ITV Nighlscreen (8154811), 5.30 ITN Morning News (30218). To Sam.

5.00 Sier Trek: Deep Space Nine. former member of the Bejoran unde to choose between her old friends a military officer (R) (S) (T) (289091).

8.48 Snooker. The opening frames of the ascond querter-final in the Benson end Hedges Masters. David Vine sete the ecene (S) (484/84).

8.00 The Trevel Show. Juliet Morris locks at holidey destinctions for Millennium Eve 1998, as airlines and hotels begin to take bookings (S) (T) (1879).

**30 News] Weather** (1) (45850).

10.30 London Tonight (T) (592879).

30 Videoteoh. Margherita Taylor presents a look at the nominatione for this yeer's Brit Awerds, and chete to Another Level, Billie and Hinda Hicke (S) (186).

We Cen Work It Out. Just in case Watchdog with Arms Robinson left you uneated with consumer effaire, Judy Finnigan take up the shopper's cause (S) (5/2).

The Knock. The let in the current run of this giem oustome drema eerles, as the present three-pert eage about rogue beggage handlers comee to en end. Che Lunghi guest-stara ee the criminal with unclear motives Whet is ehe up to with the lusclous Diane? (S) (T) (138) (S) (T) (1950).

10.40 Thursdey Night Live. Another topical issue gete kloked about the studio by Nicky Campbell, Keye Adems, Penny Smith and gueete (S) (4827508).

9.00 Chennel 4 Schools: History in Action (4832985).
9.20 Geographical Eye over Asia (4812121), 9.40 The English Programme (9212898), 10.00 Middle English (1294268), 10.20 Fourweys Ferm (8457343), 10.30 Scientific Eye (7860430), 10.50 What the Papera Seld (3600898), 11.00 The Numbers Crew (8441527), 11.10 Channel Hopping auf Deutech (9266053).

(R) (S) (T) (5830091), 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (2446825), 7.35 Winzle's House (R) (3192817), 8.00 Hevakazoo (R) (S) (4968091), 8.30 Deppledown Farm (R) (S) (4967362), 9.00 Animel House (R) (S) (T) (1667898), 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (7376121), 9.38 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6046072), 10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (1045648), 11.10 Leaza (S) (445438), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (4938350), 12.30 Family Affaira (S) (T) (9980324), 1.30 The Bod and the Beaufful (S) (T) (5839362), 1.30 The Rossame Show (S) (9989695), 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (5135324), 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (1788904),

7.00 The Big Breektest (5) (80072).

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THE THURSDAY REVIEW
The Independent 11 February 1999

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40 News; Weether (1) (15169). :10 Home end Away (S) (T) (8207411).

.00 London Tonight. Regional news update for the capital and the South-East, including a local weether bulletin (T) (508).

.00 Emmerdele. Kathy gives Chris her answer, Zoe oifere Jack a bribe, and Roy le happy to be etuck with Kelly. Hey-ho (8) (1) (2985).

OO The Bill. Burnelde end Rawton are desperete to get e reeult when e serial rapist is on the loose with a willing asseletant – but et what oost? (T) (1594).

9.30 Diepetches. The conlect tor the Lebour Issdership in Walee between "Bleir's men", Welsh Secretary Alun Michael end backbencher Rhodri Morgan (T) (80411).

90.00 Rising Damp. Rigsby's snobbery is exploited by an unscrupulous visitor in the 1870s Eric Chappelf sitcom which has more or less stood the test of time (R) (796343).

10.35 Whose Line is it Anywsy? Clive Anderson plays improv games in Americs (R) (548459).

11.05 Ally McSeel (R) (185985). 12.05 Pray (5453706). 1.00 Vide (2925). 1.30 Late Toon - Digitalina (8603725). 1.35

3.45 FILM Esther Waters (Ian Dairymple end Peler Proud 1948 UK). Initially zippy costume melodrame with Dirk Bogerde meking his eterring debut as the rescelly 19th-century footman who mekee e bad women of servani girl Kathleen Ryan (564096). To 5.40am.

.25 Triehe (S) (T) (5441343). 10.30 This Morning (T) (5B173508). 12.20 Your Shout (851841), 12.30 News. Weather (T) (80843). 1.00 London Today (T) (92817). 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (1510072). 2.18 Home and Away (S) (T) (970527). 2.48 Dales Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) (978686).

Today (T) (7909607).

Children's 1TV: Mopatop's Shop (8158940). 3.35 The Adventures of Dawdle (S) (3157701). 3.45 The Sylvester and Tweety Myeteries (S) (T) (3148237). 4.00 Lavender Castle (S) (T) (8846053). 4.18 Hey Arnold (R) (T) (3318695). 4.40 Childran's Ward (S) (T) (2208614).

8.30 Hollyoeks. Max has some explaining to do about the video in the origoing teenage eoap (S) (T) (430).

7.00 Chennel 4 News Weether. Including headines et 7.30pm (S) (T) (585807).

8.00 Noriend Nannies. The Interns attend the Queen's Cup polo metch et Windsor to take charge of the children of the rich end famous for en afternoon (8275). 7.50 The Millenniel Minietures. Another British achievement celebreied in ministura (T) (617898).

8.30 Lester Piggott. Another chence to see this interesting profile of the punters' tevourita jockey. What gave Piggott such a overriding will to win? All thet and claims of indiscipline end contempt for authority (67382).

CHOTGE The Reke's Progress (Sidney Gilliat 1945 UK). Rex Herrison is the pre-war cad. See Film of the Day, below (54672783).

Carlton

**11.30 Powerhouse** (T) (4701). **12.00** Sesame Straet (75091). **12.30** Bewitched (R) (S) (T) (80625). **1.00** Pet Rescue (S) (T) (80459). **1.30** The Three Stooges (R) (18842169). 1.50 John Mills is released after 12 yeers in prison for a crime he did not commit end is determined to sesk vengeance on those whose perjury put him behind bars. The Thames estuery location work is the best thing about this otherwise humdrum crime drame (T) (46584140).

Collectors' Lot (T) (966), 4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (701), 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (5969850), 4.55 Ricki Lake (S) (T) (3523053), 5.30 Pet Rescue (237).

5.20

**Sunset Beach.** Cole, AJ and Antonio are in the church as the trippy US soap makes an interesting bid for the Neighbours/Home end Awey market (S) (T) (7190607).

3.30 IIIM Cherro! (Cheries Marquis Warren 1969 US).
Elvis Presley takes on a virtually etraight dramatic role in a doomed bid to give himself a change of image. He plays a reformed gunman framed for the thelt of a priceless gun in this quesi-spaghet!! western (9772968).

8.00 Dishes. Culinery oupids Kate Thornton and Danny ... Brown introduce the game show which mixes cookery end romanca (T) (850).

8.00. 100 Per Cent. The geme show with a gimmick but without a hoat (S) (8392169).

7,00 Family Attairs. Clairs isceives a macabre gitt and Cilve mekee e startling confession in the post-booting tragedy scep (B) (T) (6376121). 9 News Updete including First on Five (S) (T) (5/39/140).

7.30 Melaysien Jungle. Focusing on the glant etrangler tig tree. Knew you'd be interested (S) (T) (6305633).

8.00 The Pepsi Chart. Where they'll be jumping around to live gueste The Moflatta end Next of Kin, and showing videoe from Tatyena All and Biondle (5155186).

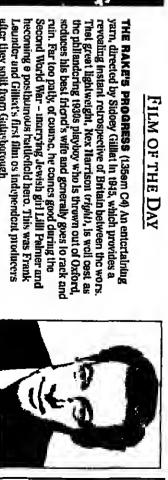
8.30 Family Contidential. An 84-ysar-old woman merried to e 37-year-old bloke, end other exhibits (S) (5134695).

9.00 IIII/II Everybody's Beby: The Rescue of Jessios McCfure (Mei Dameki 1889 US). Beau Bridges etars in this headline-chasing TV movie ebout the 1987 rescue of Jessice McLure, the little girl who left 20it down en ebandoned well eheft in Odesea, Texas (T) (89809459).

10.80 Bring Mo the Head of Light Entertainment.
The comedy panel game welcomoe guests Ed Byrne and Lynn Forguson (S) (619091).

12,00 11.20 Tho Jack Dooherty Show (S) (7918/192). Live and Dengerous (4923251). 4.40 Prisoner: Call Block H (3221454). 5.20 Ruesell Grent's Postcerde (39897928). 5.30 t00 Par Cent (9920980). To 6am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GRUERT



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